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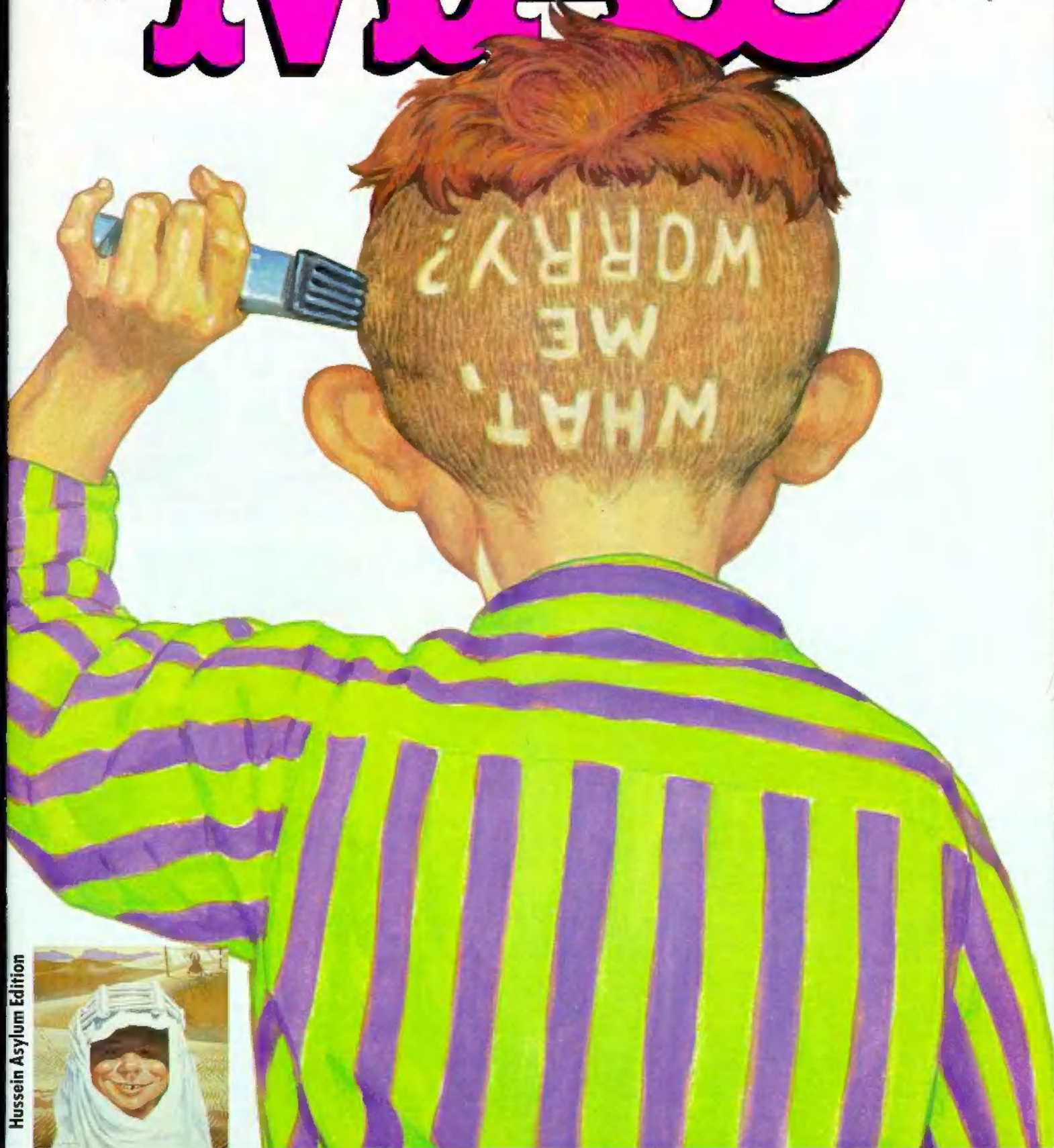
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MAD

"Remember the good old days, when the government lived within its income and without most of yours?"

—Alfred E. Neuman

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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS the usual gang of idiots

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**Various Places Around the Magazine

FRONT COVER ARTIST: RICHARD WILLIAMS

BACK COVER ARTIST: JOHN POUND

BACK COVER WRITER: DAN BIRTCHER

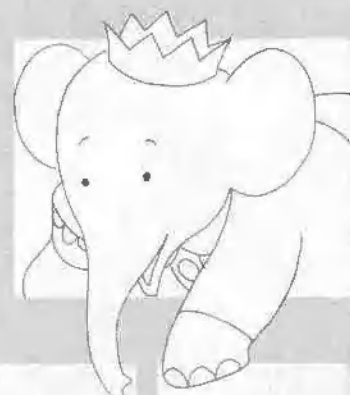
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**"MacGIMMICK"
(A MAD TV
SATIRE)**
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CLOSE YOUR EYES: COVER YOUR EARS: SHUT YOUR MOUTH: NOW YOU'RE READY TO ENJOY...

SEE NO...HEAR NO...SPEAK NO...

MAD



Every once in a while a book comes along that can transform an entire generation. While waiting for such a book to come along, this book can really help kill the time for you!

—William Mildred Farnsworth
Higgenbottom Gaines IX
Publisher, MAD Magazine

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPT.



DINO-SORE

Once again, you guys should be ashamed. After all, a mag with your reputation for scientific accuracy should've realized that the *pterodactyls* and *dimorphodon* in Sergio Aragones's "A MAD Look At Dinosaurs" (#300) aren't dinosaurs! The *pterodactyl* lived at the same time and belonged to the *archosaurs*, but are not strictly dinosaurs. The *dimorphodon* was an ancestor to dinosaurs and mammals. Nor only this, but the *pterosaur* on page 8 has too many fingers and the *ceratopsian* dino shown in the film lived several million years after the last sauropod. And none of the dinosaurs sat around in swamps. Aside from that, I enjoyed the mag!

Amy Lashmit
Essex Jct., VT

Your letter reminds us of a *Brontosaurus*... You know, the one with the PEA-SIZED BRAIN??!!
—Ed.

MORON MAIL

Thirty years ago I found a dirty copy of MAD laying in a street gutter of Daytona Beach. My Mother scolded me and told me not to pick up trash from the street. Now, my son buys and reads MAD on a regular basis. That was my first look at MAD and I've read many copies since trying to find something of value in what you publish.

Charlie Carlson
Sergeant-Major USA (Ret.)
Daytona Beach, FL

There is no value in what we publish! You've wasted a third of your life. Now you're wasting your son's life too. In some cultures, people are fed to live snakes for less! Oh, one more thing: Your Mother was wrong telling you not to pick up trash in the streets. That's how most of the MAD staff met their wives!—Ed.

LICENSE TO ILL



James Mollo of Staten Island, NY sent us this spiffy photo of his Volkswagen Jetta sporting a "Potrzebi" license plate. We understand he only had money for either the plates or some new seat belts. Real good thinking, James!!

WHAT, ME SAUDI?

Hello from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. I am currently deployed as a part of Operation Desert Shield. My squad and I are avid readers of MAD and heartily enjoy the humor your magazine displays. We recognize the originality in your humor and conclude that that is why we are kept laughing from cover to cover.

We recently acquired (by chance) a well-used copy of your December issue featuring The Simpsons. We laughed hysterically and our morale was boosted. Unfortunately, that is the only issue we have seen. What we were wondering is if maybe you could send some issues. Thanks for taking time to read my letter.

Specialist Robert A. Bauman
Chicago, IL

Editor's Note: Starting with #300, MAD, in cooperation with its printers and suppliers, began sending 25,000 free copies of each issue to our troops in Saudi Arabia. Unfortunately, there are a lot more than 25,000 soldiers over there. So, instead of trashing your issues, why not send them to our Armed Forces at this address:

For land-based troops:
ANY SERVICEMEMBER
OPERATION DESERT SHIELD
APO NEW YORK
09848-0006

For shipboard troops, substitute FPO and 09866-0006 for the zip code. Postage is 85¢ per issue.

I'm a U.S. Marine helicopter crew chief serving in Saudi Arabia. I read a copy of your mag that another dude had sent to him over here. Thanks for putting the New Kids on the Block in their place! If they're so great, why don't they enlist and serve their country? Better yet, let's draft them and make them grunts and cooks! A job well done, MAD strikes again!

Ltjpl. Robert T. Holomshek
Saudi Arabia
"Semper-Fi"

We have a better idea—How about you and your Apache Attack Helicopter circling by Donnie's house!—Ed.

IT DOESN'T ADD UP

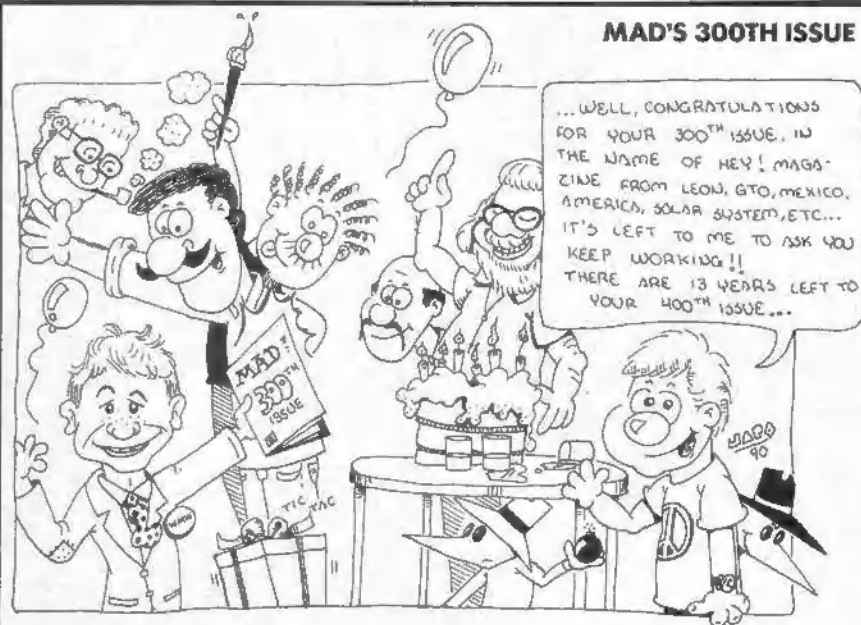
My Math Professor at the University of Delaware, Jon Manon, has raised the consciousness of his students regarding the derogatory image of math in the media. Of course we could expect such appalling misrepresentations from television, but not from such a highly respected publication as MAD! I was therefore shocked and dismayed to see you portray mathematicians as "nerds, dorks and wimps" on page 26 of issue #300. On behalf of my Professor and mathematicians everywhere, I request an apology from you.

Peggy Reinhold
Newark, DE

Please accept our sincere apologies. It was never our intention to portray mathematicians as nerds, dorks and wimps! Unfortunately, this happened because the artist failed to carry a "2" in his drawing. Actually, we meant to portray mathematicians as geeks, dweebs and yahoos! We regret the error, but hope you will award us partial credit for the work shown!

—Ed.

MAD'S 300TH ISSUE



300th issue tributes from our slavishly devoted fans have been pouring in from all over, including this drawing from down south!

I noticed two mistakes in your gala 300th issue—1) It was funny, and 2) You failed to print one of my letters!

A.J. Veraldi
Los Angeles, CA

A.J.—In this issue, we correct both mistakes!

—Ed.



Issue 300... You guys never know when to say when. Oh, well. Congratulations anyway on a job well done. Maybe the next 300 issues will actually be funny and tasteful!

Russell Howze
Travelers Rest, SC

RRRRuss—You're right. We don't know when to say "when"... We do, however, know when to say "Schmuck!"—Ed.

Some of the many others who went against their better judgment and wrote to congratulate us on our 300th issue include:

Kelly Dean, Newton Sq., PA; David Tanny, San Diego, CA; Scott Anthony, Woodland Park, CO; Gary Barclay, Hillsboro, OR; Chris Notchick, Waymart, PA; Tyrene Bada, Beaverton, OR; Nate Fisher, St. Louis Pk., MN; Joe Dezutti, Torrance, CA; T.J. Waldron, Lake Butler, FL; Sam Tucker, Westfield, NJ; Trisha Rivera, Granger, WA; Bruce Bourquin, Redlands, CA; Marco Panzanella, Cortland, NY; Adam Sears, Buffalo Grove, IL; Joe Brato, Yonkers, NY; Aja Olander, Acworth, GA; Will Walker, Sterling Hts., MI; Dwayne Plaut, Madison Hts., MI; Michael Cormier, Hesperia, CA; Sheila Trotman, West Palm Beach, FL; Drew Crocker, Wilton, CT; Rachael Kaufman, Chicago, IL; Barbara Teran, Jackson Hts., NY; Tom Oslicky, Chesapeake City, MD; Scott Carruthers, Boise, ID; Sonny Brucato, Maspeth, NY; Shammah Todd, Jonesboro, GA; Jan Weber, Winter Springs, FL; Tom Olman, Rockford, MI; Micah Haskell-Hoehl, Pittsburgh, PA; Trent Davis, Millford, MI; Corey Larson, Sedona, AZ; Lawrence Hribar, Baton Rouge, LA; Carter Byrnes, McLean, VA; Amanda Eastman, Lynnwood, WA; Robert Edward, Staten Island, NY; Pamela Gaus White, Washington, DC; Kirk Samulski, Lonsdale, PA; Roger Yarrow, Darwood, OH; Justin Clay, Cleveland Hts., OH; Michael Jacques, Midland, Canada; Gregory Alexander, Ontario, Canada; George Petrescu, Saskatchewan, Canada; David Peterson, Tokyo, Japan; Delzant Sylvaln, Nantes, France; Laure Bodin, Bangkok, Thailand; Naaman Mualem, Israel; Eddy Bueno and Nathan Filizli, Whereabouts Unknown!

NOTES FROM A HUSSEIN ASYLUM

I just recently got out of Kuwait. I was supposed to be a member of the American School of Kuwait's Class of '91. So were my friends, but Saddam ruined it for all of us. Now we're scattered all over the world and we can't reach each other. We all liked reading MAD; it was one of the crazy things we had in common. If you could please print my letter and address, I think some of my friends would read it and be able to contact me. Thanks for your help!

Nada Shalaby
Cairo American College
P.O. Box 39
Maadi, Cairo
Egypt 11431

We discussed your request at length, and decided to print your address. We must warn you, however, that you now run the risk of being bombarded with come-on offers promising free Hickory Farms fruitcakes, or worse yet, moronic letters from the thousands of geek, dweeb and yahoo mathematicians who read MAD!—Ed.

WHY ALL THE WACKENFUSS?

After reading the letters page of MAD #299, I was shocked and bewildered to find out how sorely lacking your science department is in the area of nuclear physics. A young man from Oregon wrote to you with a question about atomic structure and the decay of an element. After he did such a great job of stalling his science teacher for what must've been at least a week, you, in your all-encompassing ignorance, gave him some ridiculous solution involving the Wackenfuss Principle. I don't see how you can expect to retain your standing as a renowned and respected science journal if you keep giving advice like that. What you need to be looking for is the atomic mass number of Helium (4). This tells us that no matter what other information is given in the question, the mass of a Helium atom is always 4 amu!

Randy Wilkins
Norfolk, VA

You nuclear nincompoop! We stand by the Wackenfuss Principle and so would you if you read the latest findings on gases as reported in the December issue of Sassyl!—Ed.

"MAD REVIEWS THE 21st CENTURY"

In issue #299's "MAD Reviews the 21st Century Ahead of Time," you inferred that Dan Quayle would have won two Presidential elections by 2005. Although the predictions were based on reality, Quayle's political ascension is implausible. I would rather lick the phlegm off of Flipper's blowhole than endure 25 consecutive years of Republican leadership, let alone the MAD satires that would accompany them!

Bryon Kurzenabe
Camden, NJ

Pucker up!—Ed.

Please Address All Correspondence To:
MAD, Dept. 302, 485 MADison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope or a note congratulating Nick on his appearance on "thirtysomething"!

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH



This issue's envelope comes to us from Todd Fronauer of Altoona, PA. Todd's such a nice guy that he had the common decency to remind us the design was borrowed from the cover of our 1965 paperback book, "It's a World, World, World, World, MAD"! Todd: Next time, check your spelling!

If you missed last summer's big movies, don't despair. They're coming out in videos! And to help you choose the movies you'd like to see, MAD has asked its guest reviewers to render their judgments. (Editor's note: Their judgments might be even sounder if they had actually seen the movies they're reviewing!) So here we go again with MAD's

VIDEO REVIEWS

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: STAN HART

Hi! I'm Roger Eclair, and the fellow seated next to me is Gene Fishkill, whose foolish and sophomoric opinions supply our show with comic relief!

If my partner could keep his face out of his tyrannosaurus-size box of popcorn for ten seconds he might know what movie he was watching to review!

Anyway, our first film is "Die Even Harder 2"! In "Die Harder 1," Goose Willits saved an office building from terrorists during a Christmas vacation...

This time around Goose goes for something bigger! He saves an entire airport at Christmas time! Which shows that, like Toys 'R' Us, Yuletide is his busy season!

SHHH! KEEP IT DOWN!

WHO ARE THOSE CREEPS?



Tell me, what are these #\$\$%&*+ terrorists demanding from us?

They want us to release their captured dictator or else...

Or else what?

Or else they'll force all these innocent people to fly on Eastern Airlines!

What?! Those sadistic fiends must be stopped!

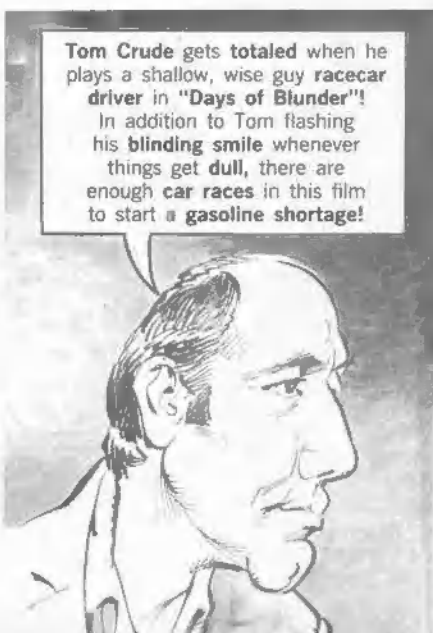
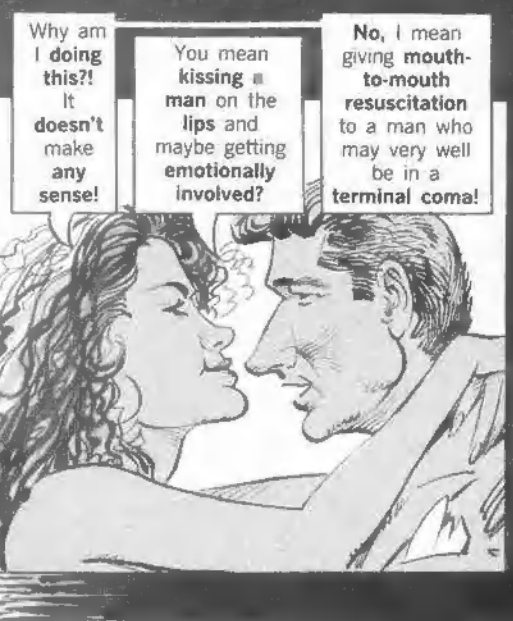
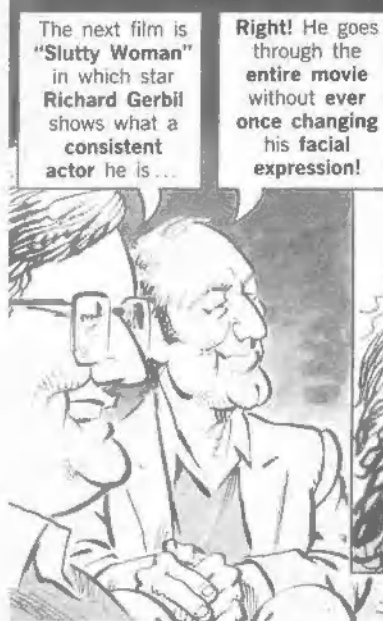
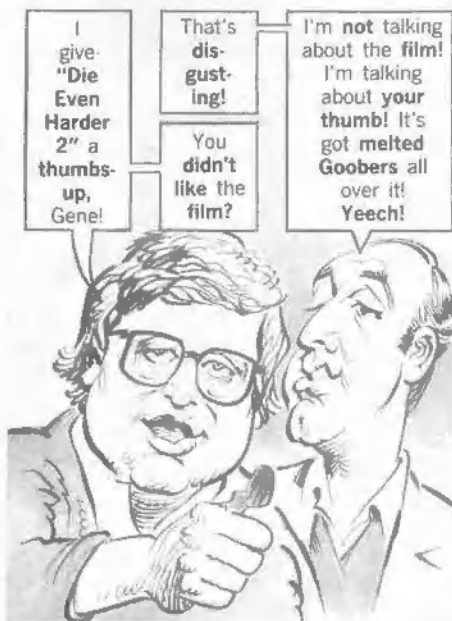
How could the same thing happen two times to the same guy?

What's so surprising? The same thing happened to us twice...

...and to me three times now...

...how about five—count 'em, five—times to me!





To me, there's a very close connection between racecar driving and sex!

Yeah! In both, you run out of gas before you cross the finish line!

Hey, where are you going?

Where do you think I'm going? I've never been so car sick in all my life!

Well, I guess "Days of Blunder" gets a thumbs-up from me and a finger down the throat from Gene!



In "Flopliners" a group of young medical students try a daring experiment! They allow one of their group to die and then bring him back to life! They want to prove that there's life after death!

Unfortunately, in this dull, dopey film, there doesn't even seem to be a helluva lot of life before death!

Do you really think we're doing the right thing by killing perfectly healthy people?

Sure! It's good practice for when we become doctors!



I guess the moral of this film is that once the curtain of death is parted, it doesn't close behind you!

I have the same problem with this damned hospital gown!



"Flopliners" shows people who are brain dead! Big deal! "Nightline" shows the same thing when it interviews Congressmen!

"Dorkman" is a movie I really hated! Halfway through it, I almost walked out!

And you would have, if you weren't wedged into your seat so tightly that you couldn't even get up!

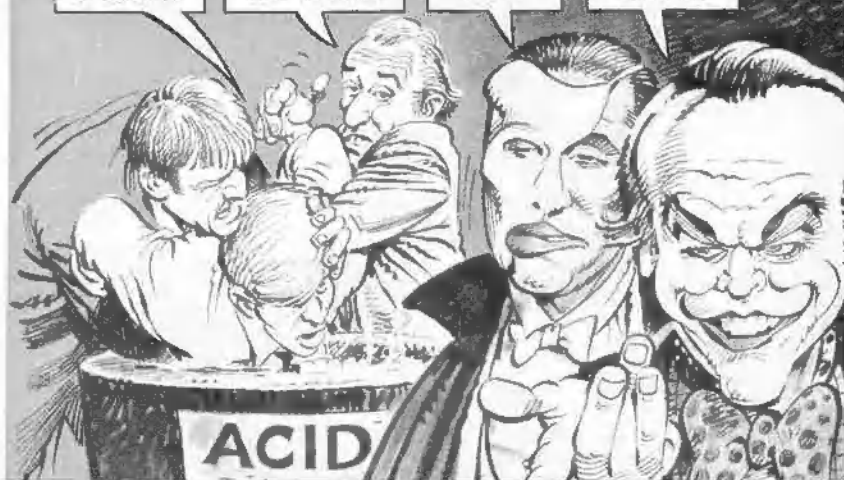


Why are you thugs doing this to me? I'm a man of science!

Hey, look at it this way, ol' buddy, you just discovered a cure for acne!

What's he getting so damn excited about?

Yeah! Why knock it? We started that way, didn't we?



I can use my synthetic skin to make myself resemble any celebrity! The trouble is the skin only lasts 98 minutes! Then it starts to melt and hang from my face!

You'll still look like a celebrity—Zsa Zsa Gabor!

That film was pretty scary! I gave it a thumbs down and I think Roger's thumb inside his mouth is down! Right?

Glub glub!

Okay! Our final film is "Presumed Impotent"! It's a very low key courtroom drama! What's the main difference between this movie and a TV courtroom drama like "L.A. Law"? \$7.50 a ticket to see it!

Your mistress is dead, but you still haven't been able to forget her, have you?

I might be able to if you wouldn't ask me that same question ten times a day!

HAVE YOU DRIVEN FORD LATELY?

You know what making love to me here means?

Yeah! That you can do a lot more on a desk top than just work a computer!

Listen, you two! How many movies did you see?

Six!

But you stiffs just bought one ticket apiece! Get outta here and don't ever try sneaking into other theaters in this sixplex when the usher isn't looking! Schmucks!

- 1 DIE EVEN HARDER, 2
- 2 SLUTTY WOMAN
- 3 PRESUMED IMPOTENT

- 4 DAYS OF BLUNDER
- 5 FLOPLINERS
- 6 DORKMAN

LOUIE'S SIXPLEX

NOW PLAYING

NC-17
DUKE-O

THE END.

ACOUSCHTICK DEPT.

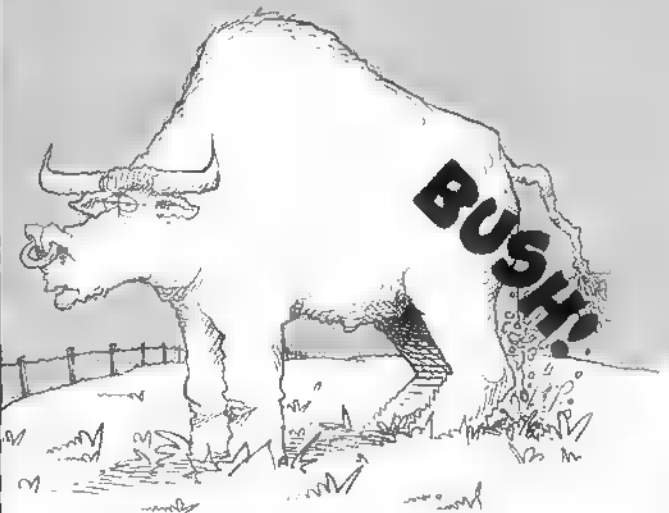
In a recent issue, you may recall, we gave a timely and puckish lesson in onomatopoeias! We cleared up the popular misconception that an onomatopoeia is a Romanian fish delicacy! In the likely event that you missed it, an onomatopoeia is a word that *sounds* like the thing it denotes—like “squish,” for example. Anyway, we’ve continued our exhaustive research into this matter and we’re exhausted. But as luck would have it, we’ve managed to milk another article out of this esoteric pap! We’ve discovered that if you listen carefully, you’ll find that some noises actually sound like famous people’s names. Confused? You won’t be after checking out these ...

CELEBRIT



Y SOUND EFFECTS

ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL

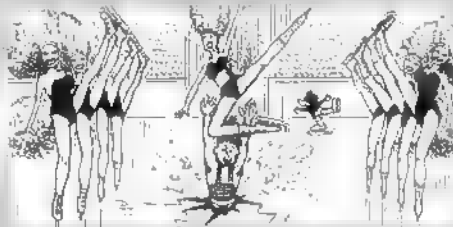


THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY STAY THE LAME DEPT.

Why do we study history? Because they make us! And because they're right—those who don't remember the past are doomed to relive it! But things never happen quite the same way

SMALL SCALE EX HISTORY REP

50,000 B.C. Through sheer will power, man makes it through the Ice Age.



Today Through sheer will power, man makes it through the Ice Capades.

1860 The Pony Express begins, with riders taking care of the horses at every opportunity.



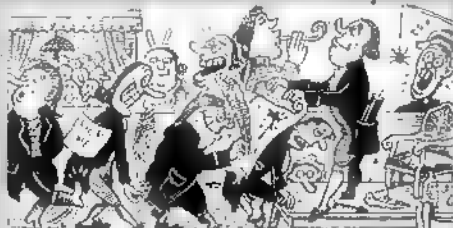
Today the U.S. Postal Service continues, with employees taking every opportunity to horse around.

2200 B.C. Lust for immortality spurs the Egyptians to wrap themselves in precious linens.



Today Lust for high office spurs politicians to wrap themselves in precious linens.

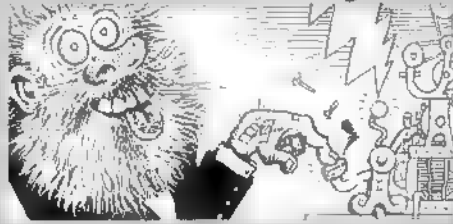
1787 The Founding Fathers create a new nation at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.



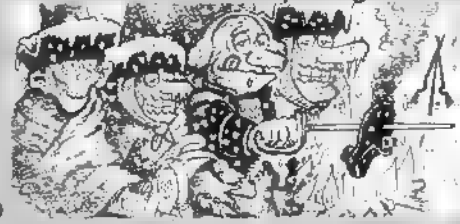
2 Billion B.C. Life forms in a swamp's ancient, soupy goo.



1839 Samuel Morse sees his telegraph is built and taps out "What hath God wrought?"



1778 Love of country prompts George Washington to spend cruel winter at Valley Forge.



Today Love of Bon Jovi prompts Sally Geps to spend cruel night in line at arena ticket office.

1804 Curiosity spurs Lewis and Clark to go explore the Louisiana Territory.



twice! Sometimes you have to look pretty closely to spot the repetition...or let us look for you! So, without further ado (and just in time for that big test!), we proudly present some

AMPLES OF HOW EATS ITSELF!

ARTIST: TOM BUNK

WRITER: DAN BIRTCHER

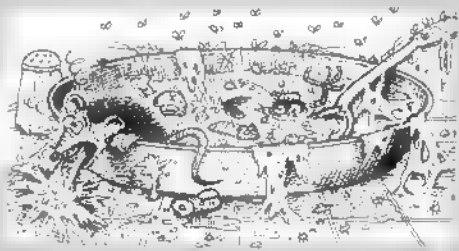


Today Fred's father creates a sensation at the Confectioners' Convention in Atlantic City.

30 million B.C. Apes leave the trees and regroup on the ground in order to achieve a better life.

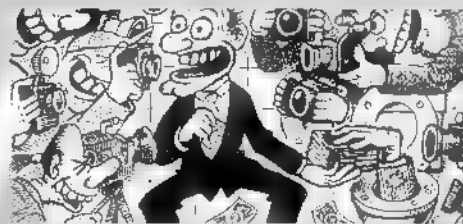


Today The Monkees leave retirement and regroup on the stage in order to recapture the good life.

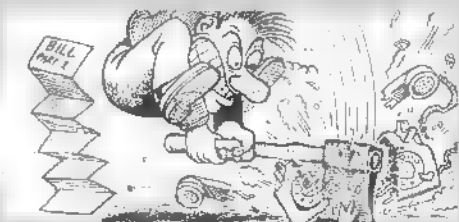


Today Life forms in a diner's old, gooey soup.

1810 Napoleon is painted with his hand in his coat because that is the style in France.



Today Congressmen are videotaped with their hands in the cookie jar because that is the style in D.C.



Today Mr. Fiksmen sees his telephone bill and shrieks out, "Who in God's name can afford this?!"

1620 Desire to be free of England drives pilgrims to the New World.

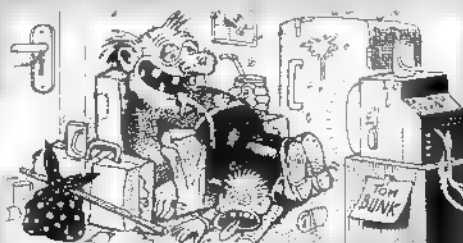


Today Desire to be free of wife drives Mr. Hanrahan to his basement workshop.



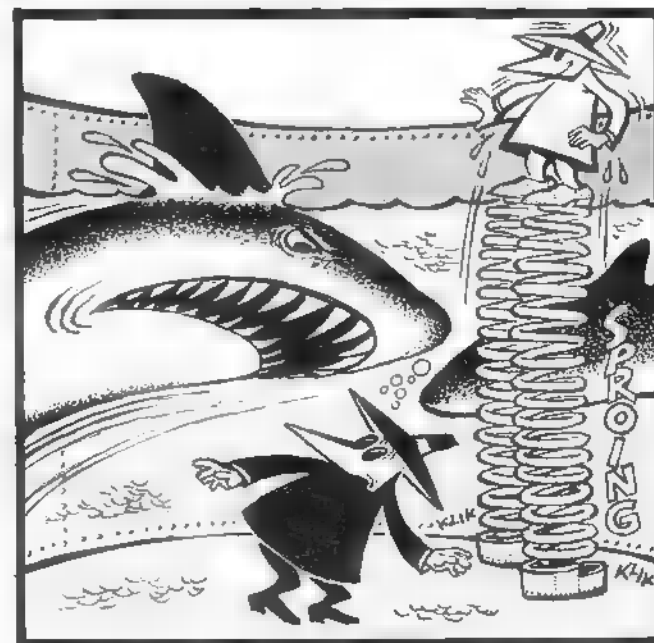
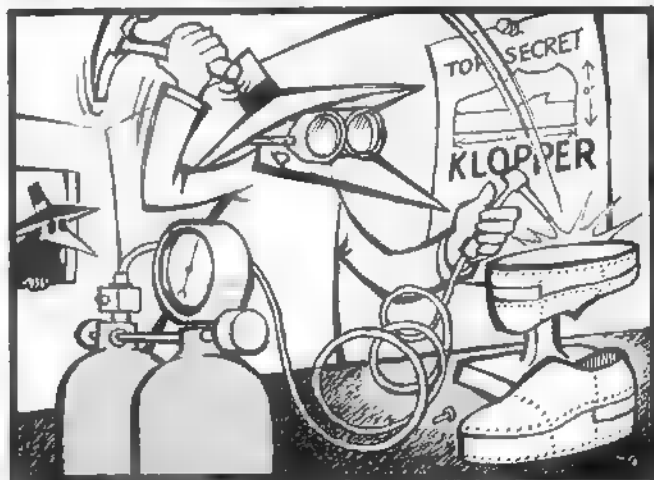
Today Curiosity spurs Louis and Claire to consider going to a different bowling alley.

1066 The Normans invade England and make it their home.



Today Norman's uncle invades his apartment and makes it his home. 11

SPY VS SPY



Tens of thousands of kiddies have grown up reading about Babar, the king of the land of the elephants. Babar lives in a kinder, gentler world where everything turns out for the best for the elephants and their friends. Yet who knows? Maybe one day they'll have to deal with the not-so-kind, not-so-gentle real world, and we'll have to read

BABAR'S FINAL ADVENTURE

ARTIST: BOB CLARKE

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS



King Babar and Queen Celeste were enjoying a wonderful picnic in a happy meadow in the glorious land of the elephants.

Celeste, who was eating an apple, turned her back to Babar while she threw up. "The apple did not please me," she said.

"Of course it pleased you," said Babar. "It had itself sprayed with chemicals so that it was red and shiny and lovely to look at."

"But it made me sick," Celeste said.

Babar chuckled. "How better could the apple tell you that you shouldn't eat it?"

Celeste threw up again, then smiled. "You're right. ■ was a most considerate apple."

"Oh, look," Celeste exclaimed. "A truck is taking away Zephir the monkey. I am sad to see him go."

"You shouldn't be," Babar said. "He is being given a chance to help humanity."

"I thought he liked it here," said Celeste.

"He did, but now he will serve medical research by being injected with viruses and implanted with electrodes."

"How nice for him," said Celeste, waving her trunk. "Bye-bye, Zephir. Be sure and write."



Suddenly they saw dozens of animals fleeing from a great fire. Babar recognized his old friend, Duane the giraffe.

"The rain forest is burning!" Duane gasped. "It's a disaster!"

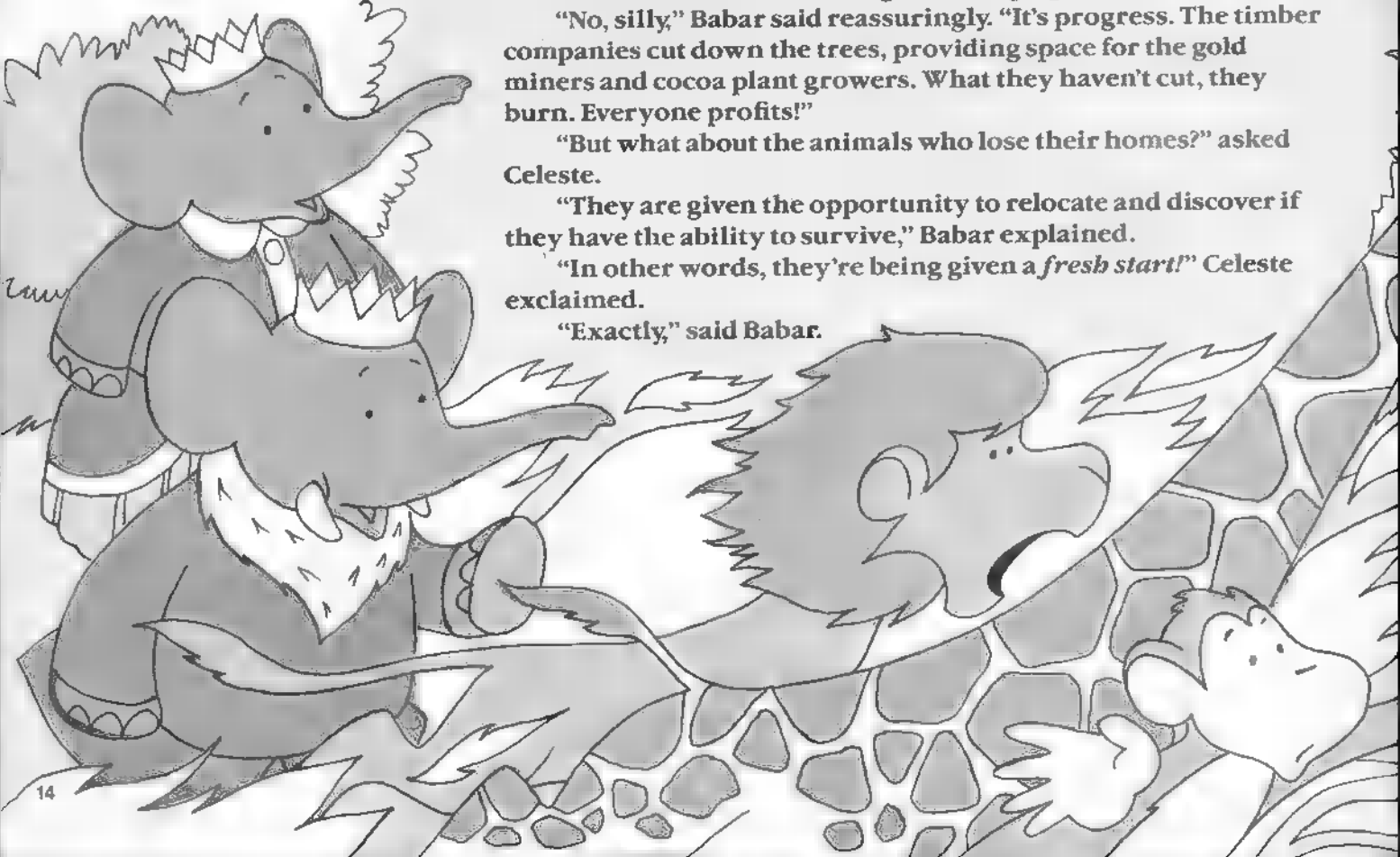
"No, silly," Babar said reassuringly. "It's progress. The timber companies cut down the trees, providing space for the gold miners and cocoa plant growers. What they haven't cut, they burn. Everyone profits!"

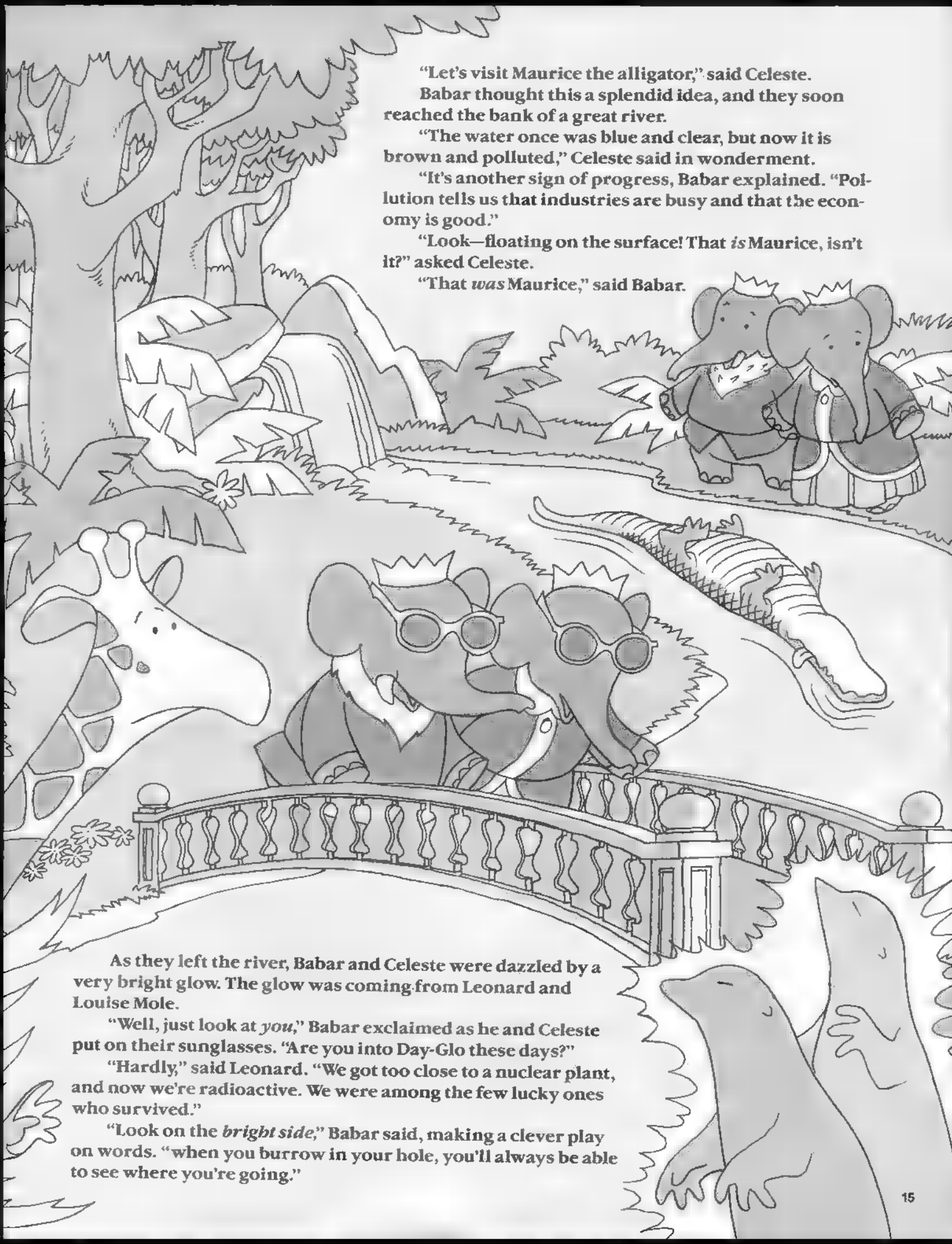
"But what about the animals who lose their homes?" asked Celeste.

"They are given the opportunity to relocate and discover if they have the ability to survive," Babar explained.

"In other words, they're being given a *fresh start*!" Celeste exclaimed.

"Exactly," said Babar.





"Let's visit Maurice the alligator," said Celeste. Babar thought this a splendid idea, and they soon reached the bank of a great river.

"The water once was blue and clear, but now it is brown and polluted," Celeste said in wonderment.

"It's another sign of progress, Babar explained. "Pollution tells us that industries are busy and that the economy is good."

"Look—floating on the surface! That *is* Maurice, isn't it?" asked Celeste.

"That *was* Maurice," said Babar.

As they left the river, Babar and Celeste were dazzled by a very bright glow. The glow was coming from Leonard and Louise Mole.

"Well, just look at *you*," Babar exclaimed as he and Celeste put on their sunglasses. "Are you into Day-Glo these days?"

"Hardly," said Leonard. "We got too close to a nuclear plant, and now we're radioactive. We were among the few lucky ones who survived."

"Look on the *bright side*," Babar said, making a clever play on words. "when you burrow in your hole, you'll always be able to see where you're going."

Nearing a thicket, Babar and Celeste heard someone moaning. Looking down, they saw Darius the fox, his body held fast in a steel trap.

"Looks like you really stepped in it," Babar said.

"Tell me about it," Darius moaned. "Somebody should have warned me about fur trappers."

"It's really not the end of the world," Babar said. "Your pelt will be part of a beautiful coat that will keep some lovely woman warm. Don't you agree, Darius? Darius? Darius?"

"I don't think he can hear you," Celeste said.

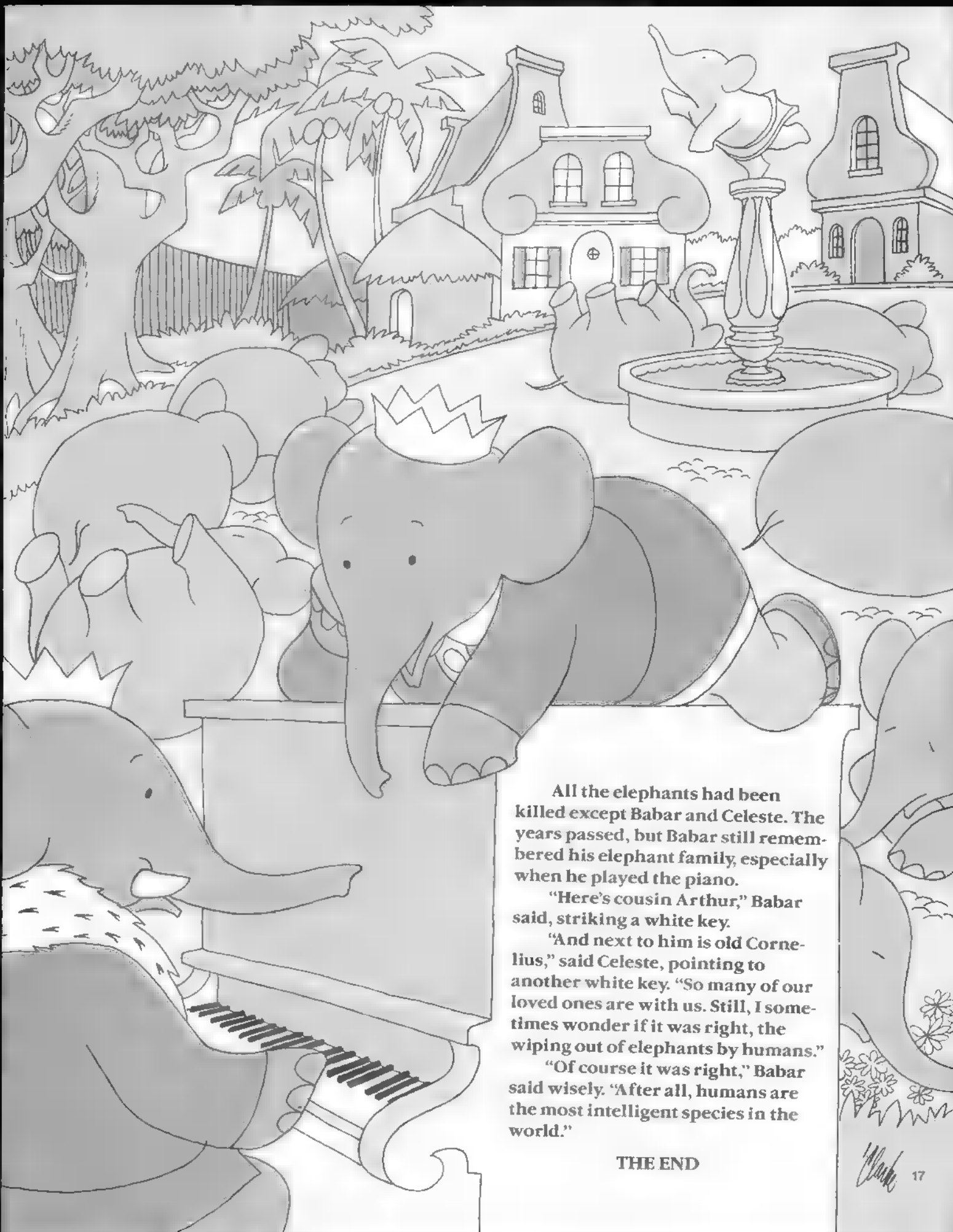
"He never was much for conversation," said Babar.

Returning home to their city, Babar and Celeste had a great surprise.

"Look," Celeste said. "Our people are all lying on the ground and have lost their tusks. Are they taking a nap?"

"No," said Babar, "they have given their lives to the ivory poachers. Of course, they would have died eventually anyway, but now their ivory can live forever. Why else would we have been given tusks?"

"Good point!" said Celeste.



All the elephants had been killed except Babar and Celeste. The years passed, but Babar still remembered his elephant family, especially when he played the piano.

"Here's cousin Arthur," Babar said, striking a white key.

"And next to him is old Cornelius," said Celeste, pointing to another white key. "So many of our loved ones are with us. Still, I sometimes wonder if it was right, the wiping out of elephants by humans."

"Of course it was right," Babar said wisely. "After all, humans are the most intelligent species in the world."

THE END

COMPANY TRADEMOCKS DEPT.

The Jolly Green Giant. The Pillsbury Doughboy. Spuds MacKenzie. The California Raisins. The list is endless! All of them the products of an ad executive's limited imagination, and all of them rammed down our throats until they become the beloved symbols of the goods they were

ADVERTISING CHARACTER

THAT BETTER REFLECT THE MISERA



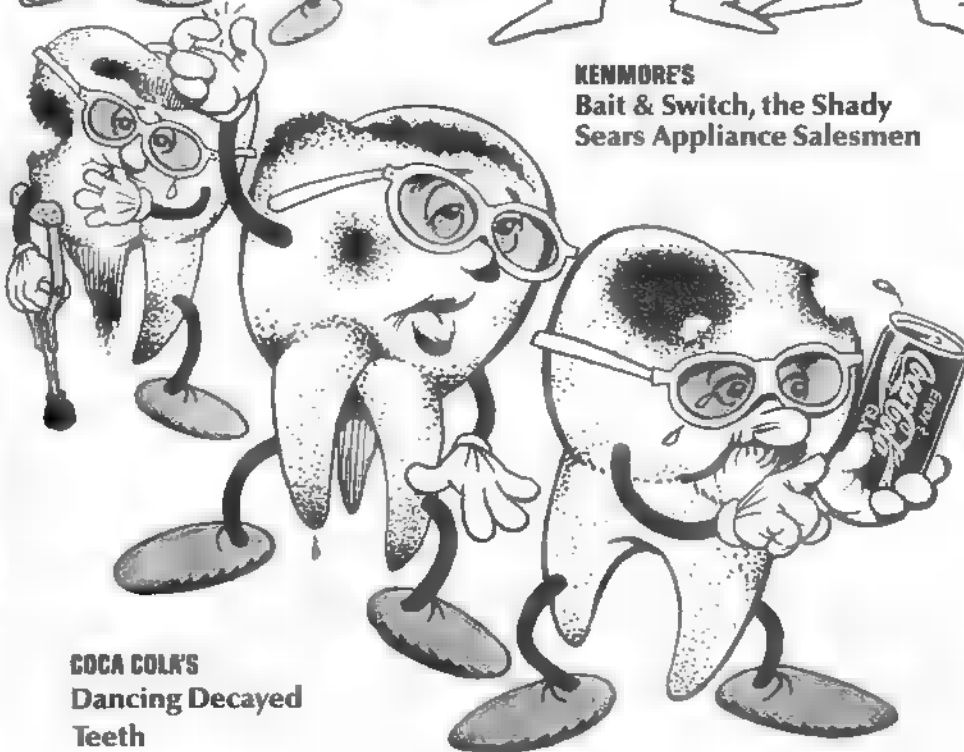
EXXON'S
Oscar, the
Oily Otter



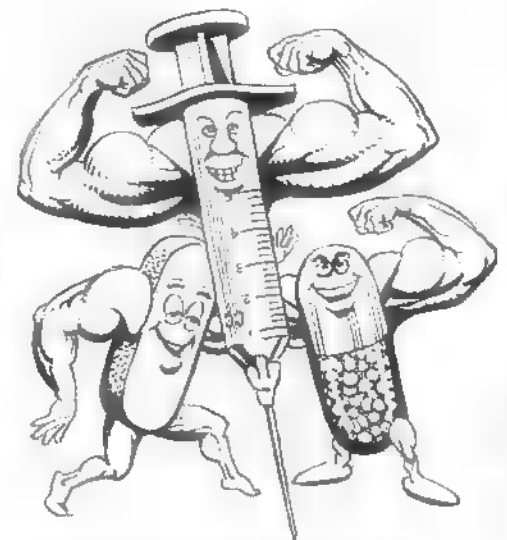
KENMORE'S
Bait & Switch, the Shady
Sears Appliance Salesmen



HUMANA HOSPITAL'S
Hank, the Talking Bag of
Infectious Medical Waste



COCA COLA'S
Dancing Decayed
Teeth



THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE'S
Anabolic
Steroid Family

S & CORPORATE MASCOTS



THE AMERICAN COSMETIC SURGEONS ASSOCIATION'S

MAD'S LIFETIME WAS TE



Time wasted watching fouls during the last two minutes of any basketball game... **25 Minutes Per Game**



Time wasted waiting for your luggage to come down the airport's conveyor belt... **Three Years, Eight Months**

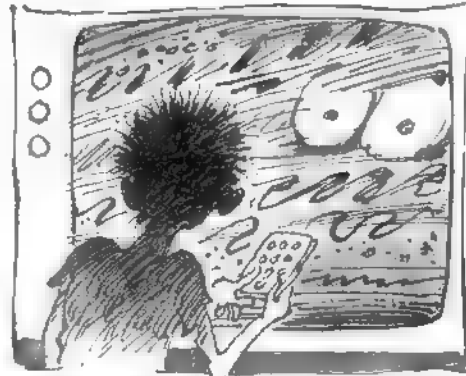


Time wasted listening to people who tell jokes and inevitably forget the punchlines... **Six Years, One Day**

ARTIST: HARRY NORTH



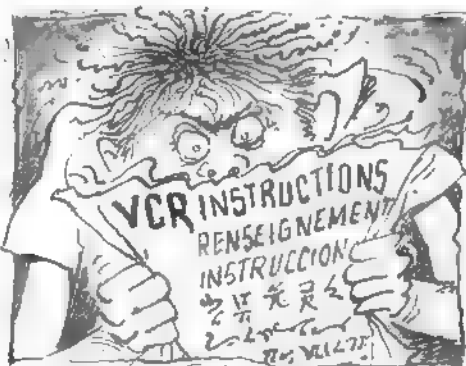
Time wasted on the telephone for concert tickets, knowing that the scalpers and drug suppliers already have rows 1 through 90... **Six Months**



Time wasted watching porno channels without a descrambler, in the hopes of getting to see something—anything—good... **One Year, Five Months**



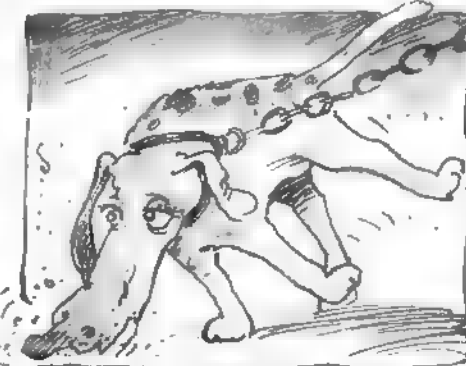
Time wasted sorting through hundreds of Terry Puhls and Bruce Benedicts, looking for a mint-condition Jose Canseco card... **Two Years, Five Days**



Time wasted reprogramming your VCR, clock radio, microwave oven, coffee machine, etc., every time there's a brownout... **Two Years, Two Months**

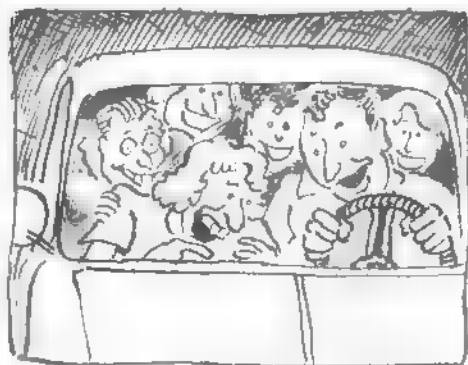


Time wasted waiting other people's turns in Monopoly, when all you've got is Baltic Avenue and the Water Works... **Eleven Months, Five Days**



Time wasted waiting for your dog to select precisely the right spot to befoul (like it really matters to him!)... **Two Years, Seven Months**

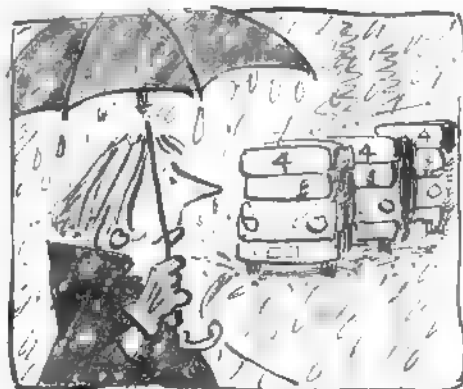
WASTED TIME CHART OF D TIME



Time wasted waiting for the odometer to start over again whenever it hits 99,997 miles or so... **Five Weeks**



Time wasted making lists of things you have to do, instead of just doing them... **Eight Months, One Hour**

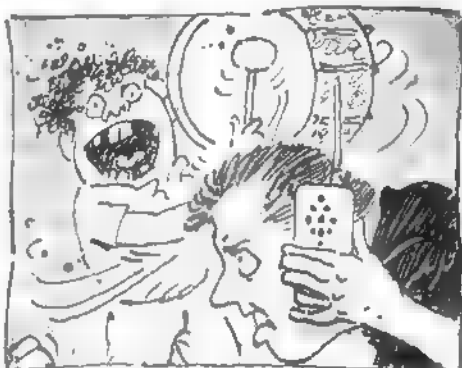


Time wasted waiting for a bus in the rain, until three come... **Ten Months**

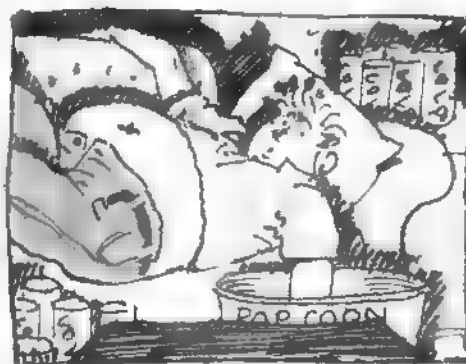
WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN



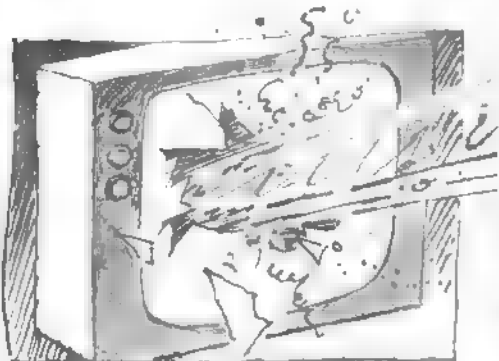
Time wasted at parties being "entertained" by people doing their lame imitations of Saturday Night Live characters... **Four Months**



Time wasted staying glued to the radio, waiting for the DJ to identify that song you liked 40 minutes ago... **One Year, Eleven Months**



Time wasted sitting through the Ani Races and Tiddlywinks Semi-Finals, waiting for the ABC Wide World of Sports Feature Match... **Two Years**



Time wasted watching the last three chapters of a TV mini-series that turned out to really suck, just because you'd already watched the beginning... **One Year, One Month**



Time wasted by people ahead of you on the highway who feel compelled to slow down and take a long look at the guy staring at his overheated engine... **Five Years, Three Months**



Time wasted studying the menu at a Chinese takeout place, even though it is exactly the same as every Chinese takeout menu in the entire universe... **One Year, Five Months**

GREAT MOMENTS IN MEDICINE



ALONG THE SNIDE LINES DEPT.

If you'd been on your toes, you would have seen this one coming! After all, it's become a yearly tradition for us at MAD to blow our stack over all the annoying and obnoxious people, places and things we've recently been subjected to. We feel compelled to fire a barrage of very cruel (but delightfully satisfying!) insults! So, brace yourself again to be jolted by...

the MAD NASTY FILE



"THE GOLDEN GIRLS"



- ...never explains the apparent gland condition that made Bea Arthur grow two feet taller than the woman who plays her mother.
- ...provides great entertainment for those who find desperate, oversexed old women to be entertaining.
- ...casts Rue McLanahan as a sex object for the first time since she starred in "The Broadway Melody of 1933."

ROBIN WILLIAMS



- ...talks so fast that he tells twice as many jokes as other comedians, yet strangely, receives only half as many laughs.
- ...is a lucky man because it's usually very difficult for ranting psychopaths who hold conversations with themselves in strange voices to find their niche.
- ...has a talent for making any character he plays seem exactly like Robin Williams.

"ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT"



- ...is for viewers who feel they should watch the news, but who get upset when it's *real* news.
- ...apparently defines "entertainment" as anything that involves Donald Trump, the Kennedy family or Tammy Bakker.
- ...never answers the most frequently asked question in show business: Is Mary Hart a real person or a robot permanently set on "Smile"?

JOHN GOTTI



- ...is a businessman **NOT** affiliated with the Mafia, which we want to emphasize so he won't have us killed.
- ...wears \$1,500 suits, which would be a month's shake-down from one merchant if he was affiliated with the Mafia, which he definitely isn't.
- ...announces every time he goes to court that he's **NOT** affiliated with the Mafia, and his word is good enough for us.



MARION BARRY



- ...managed to tolerate being the mayor of Washington by sniffing enough cocaine to think he was somewhere else.
- ...feels foolish because dozens of Congressmen who committed the same crimes in the same hotel never got caught.
- ...was driven to drugs after he found out that even Dan Quayle outranked him in Washington.

EXXON



- ...could cut transportation costs by putting all its filling stations on the Alaska beach where its oil already is.
- ...has shown the National Rifle Association that there is more than one efficient way to get rid of wildlife.
- ...has done almost as much for the ecology as George Bush promises to do.

SAVINGS & LOAN OFFICIALS



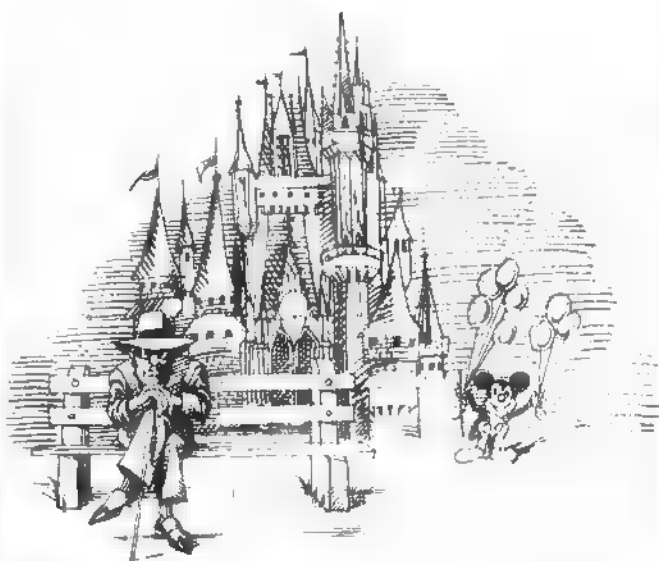
- ...discovered that one can buy a U.S. Senator for about the same price as a run-down condominium.
- ...operated the only successful form of larceny that required people to come to their place of business and wait in line to be robbed.
- ...had to steal large amounts because lawyers who can keep obvious felons out of prison don't come cheap.

ZSA-ZSA GABOR



- ...disproved Hollywood gossipers who said she was so untalented that she couldn't get arrested.
- ...can afford to risk physical encounters with the police because she is fully covered by Medicare.
- ...is the only person to become a celebrity by going on talk shows and announcing that she's a celebrity.

DISNEY WORLD



- ...provides a wholesome Florida setting where cocaine traffickers can relax before flying back to Colombia for another shipment.
- ...offers visitors a full day of fun for slightly less than the price of a new Buick.
- ...attracts so many kids that the average age of tourists coming to Florida has dropped all the way down to 59.

HOME SHOPPING NETWORKS



- ...are great for those who want to own a decorative brass flamingo, but don't want to be seen in a store buying one.
- ...appeal to the plethora of viewers who find the programming on NBC, ABC and CBS even more boring.
- ...won't be satisfied until every man, woman and child in America is completely covered with cubic zirconia jewelry.

NEIGHBORS

I don't get the Gordons at all! They don't have a TV or a VCR, they share one car between them, they go the library every week to get books to read, they do all their own gardening...



BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTE

CURES

Do you have something for a bad case of hiccups?

Yes, I do...

BOOO!

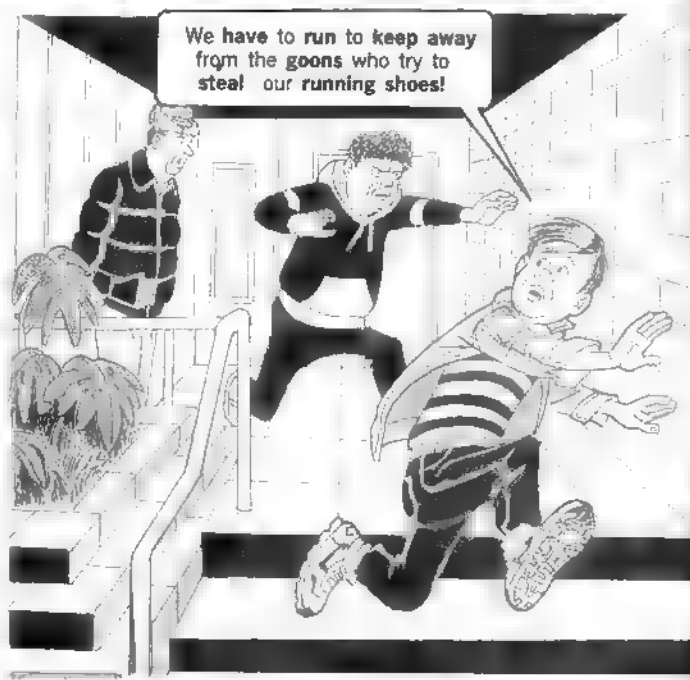
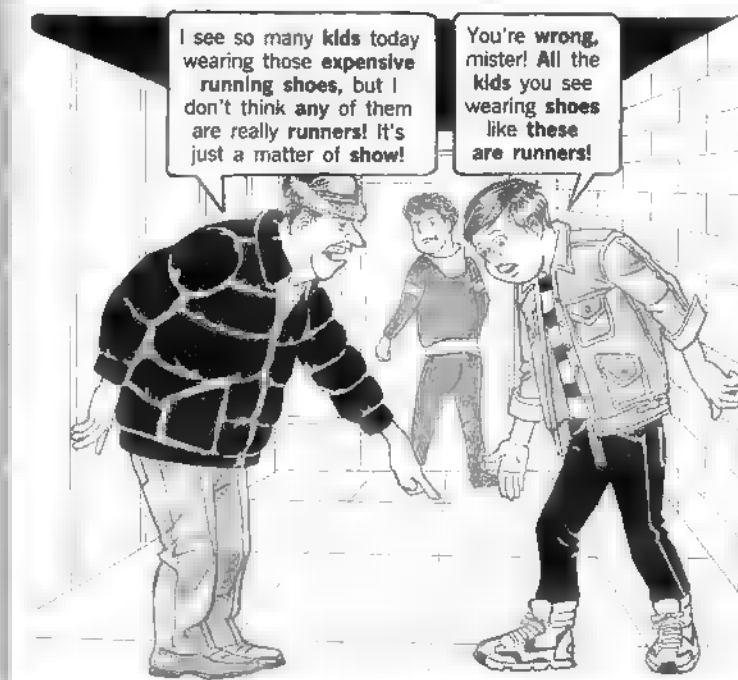
Yaah!

Hey, why'd you scare me like that? You could've given me a heart attack!

See, it works every time! Your hiccups are completely gone!

I was asking for my wife at home!

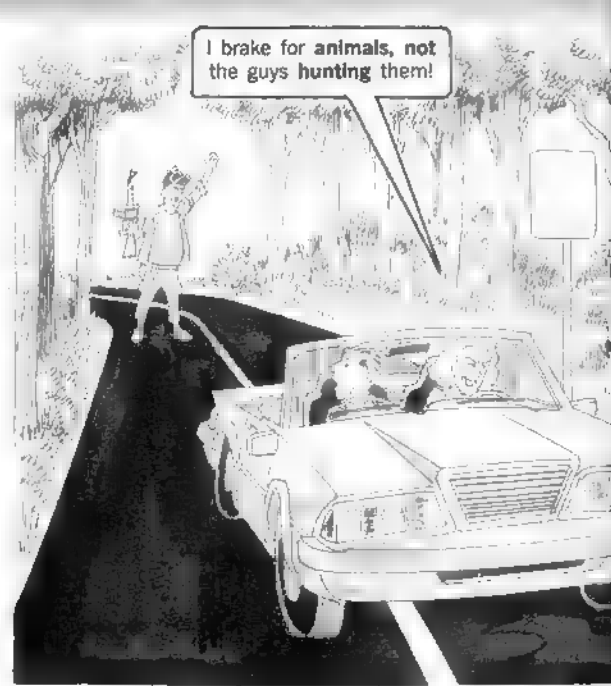




R SIDE OF...

ARTIST ■ WRITER:
DAVE BERG

DRIVERS



RATINGS

Sorry, gang! Because of this film's rating, I'm not allowed to let you in! It contains some objectionable language!

That's the dumbest @%%&* thing I've ever heard!

I'll say! Let's go to the other @%%&* cineplex! Maybe there's a @%%&* film there that doesn't have objectionable @%%&* language!

EXECUTIVES

Welcome to the firm, Mr. Borkow! You'll do very well here if you remember our executive policy, "Hard work won't hurt you..."

"...as long as you get someone beneath you to do it!"

TELEPHONE

Enough already, Maude! You've been on that phone for over an hour! Your mother and I have to make calls too, you know!

I've been meaning to talk to you about that!

IMPORTANCE

We interrupt this program for the following news bulletin...

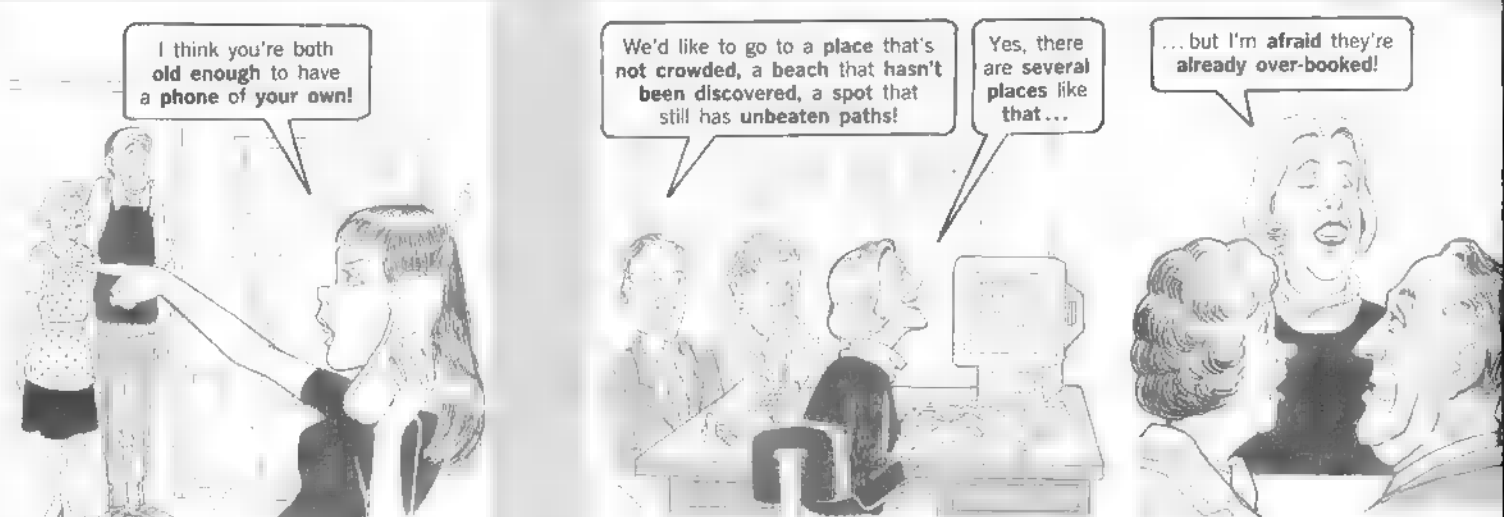
This is terrible!

They're interrupting my favorite soap! How come they never interrupt a commercial?

MARRIAGE



TRAVEL



FASHION



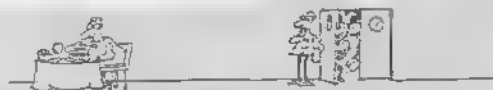
THE OFFICE



GROWING UP



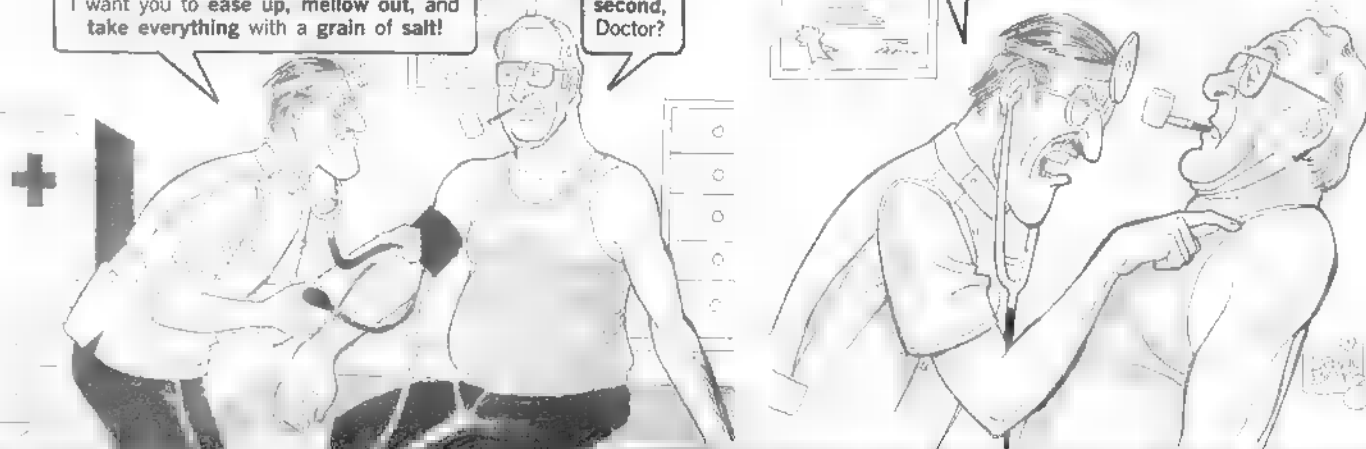
DOCTORS



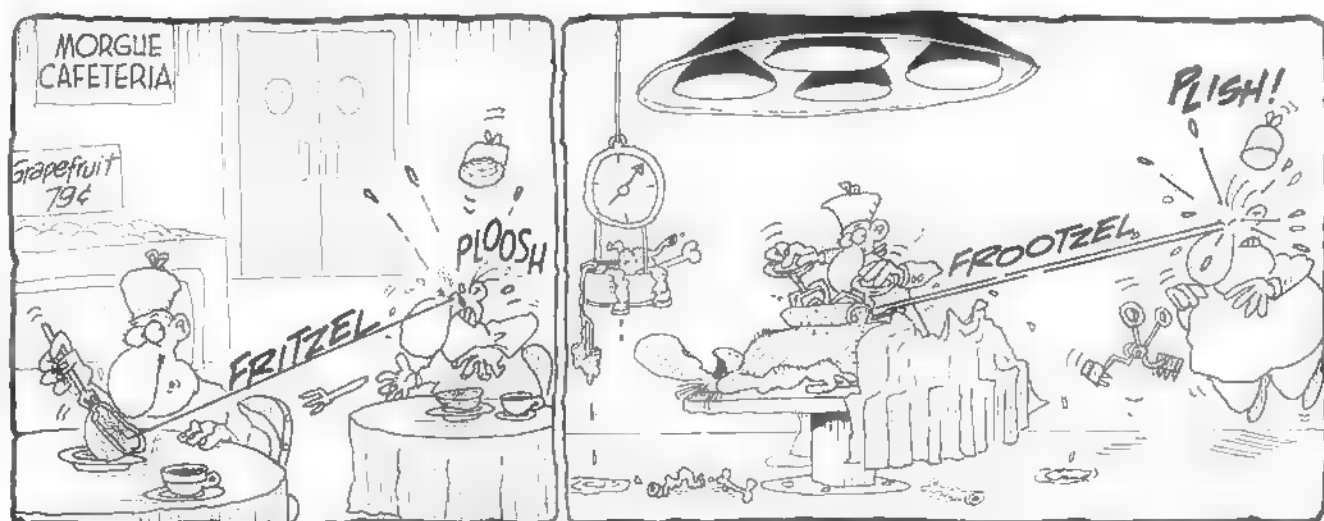
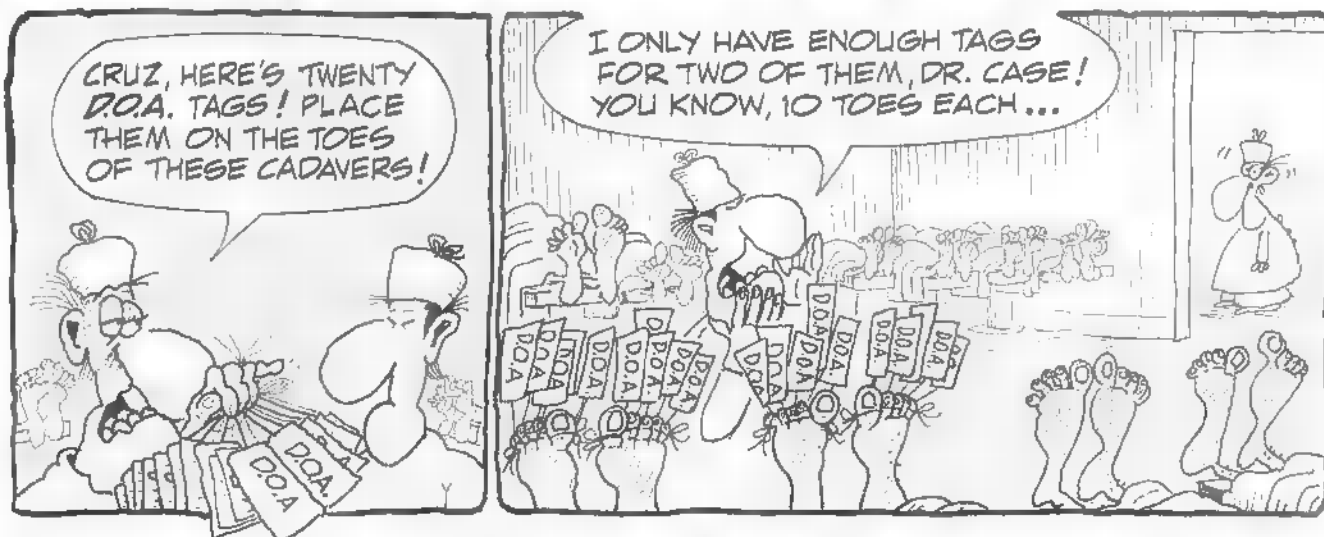
Kaputnik, your blood pressure is ■ ■ high! There are two easy ways to bring it down! The first is to reduce stress! I want you to ease up, mellow out, and take everything with a grain of salt!

And what's the second, Doctor?

Your diet! Take NOTHING with a grain of salt!

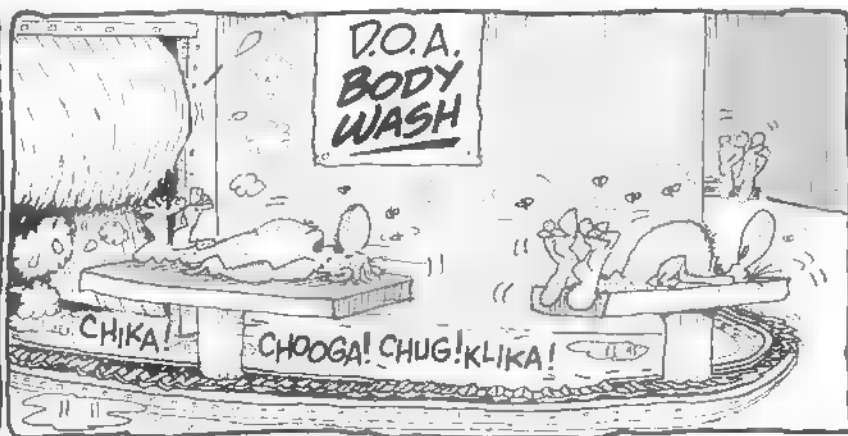


DUCK EDWING D.O.A.



ARTIST AND WRITER: DUCK EDWING







THE SHAME OLD THING DEPT.

In sports, in religion, in business, on Wall Street—wherever you look there's another scandal. Aren't you tired of them? Don't you wish you'd seen the last of them? Well, say no more, because we're wrapping them all up in

MAD'S

ALL-INCLUSIVE DO-IT-YOURSELF NATIONAL SCANDAL NEWSPAPER STORY

_____ ① _____ ② _____ today upon
learning that _____ ③ _____ ④ _____
while _____ ⑤ _____ ⑥ _____
According to _____ ⑦ _____
_____ ⑧ _____ will _____ ⑨ _____
_____ ⑩ _____ A _____ ⑪ _____
could result in _____ ⑫ _____

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

①

Wall Street

The sports world

The banking community

The P.T.L.

The gang at Al's Tavern

All of Africa except Zaire

The cast of *Twin Peaks*

The Rue Morgue

The Ted Koppel household

Middle Earth

The Fresno Mafia

Brownie Troop 58

⑤

doing business

placing bets

pandering

self-destructing

reciting "Hiawatha"

mastering the luge

molting

searching for Atlantis

doing the wild thing

befriending marmots

bad-mouthing Ted Turner

scaling Devil's Tower

⑨

launch

botch up

make book on

cater

hire the Fanelli Boys for

replace Christmas with

pay Bo to plug

colorize

trade two draft choices for

pre-empt *Fresh Prince* with

pledge Czarist support for

scalp tickets for

②

was stunned
gasped in horror
halted flossing
underwent a sex change
came back to AT&T
shouted Elmer Fudd curses
threw up on cue
astrally projected
banned pinkie rings
turned off Slim Whitman
went platinum
turned to prayer

③

inside traders
Pete Rose
Jimmy Swaggart
Mayor Marion Barry
mutant CPAs
Rex the Wonder Dog
prehistoric man
Bel Air slumlords
bloated ballerinas
the Maytag repair man
shy conquistadors
Prom Queen runners-up

④

profited illegally
committed a no-no
smoked crack
fixed Parcheesi matches
dated Leona Helmsley
ran the 100 in 4.2
bred yaks
did not pass Go
fondled Vanna White
seldom bathed
doubled down on 12
opted for Business Class

and excise taxes on ammunition contributed \$517 million to state wildlife programs. And without hunters to thin

advocates argue that nature is not kind either.

television report the protesters tion said Mr.

⑥

in Washington
behind the pulpit
in Riverfront Stadium
with Neil Bush
on the Exxon Valdez
in the dawn's early light
in designer Hefty Bags
with the Fabulous Baker Boys
in Tiananmen Square
at Watusi power lunches
in warm Jello
during *Major Dad*

⑦

informed sources
Greta Garbo's will
Psalm 51
David Souter's tailor
the Monroe Doctrine
hobbit tradition
the Big Bang theory
a Nostradamus prophecy
voodoo etiquette
dirty little snitches
the rules of croquet
Magna Carta fine print

⑧

a Senate subcommittee
the SEC
Commissioner Fay Vincent
L.A. Law's Benny
Radio Free Baghdad
Cruex
20/20
George Will in ■ trance
Actors' Equity
militant heathens
all of Tulsa
a slimmed-down Mike Tyson

NEW ORLEANS,
Nov. 22 — She was
a girl from Balti-

'grokking' are

nurse.
"Lanny was t

⑩

■ full-scale inquiry
a grand jury trial
an IRS investigation
a new S&L bail-out
yet another "Rocky" sequel
chili cook-offs
■ Manhattan land-rush
Jackie Mason's comeback
the Patagonia Grand Prix
a weekend in Wilkes-Barre
the return of narrow ties
the dwarf-tossing finals

⑪

conviction
well-placed bribe
lack of protein
full moon
refusal to grovel
dash of oregano
dirty carburetor
poorly placed comma
good opening routine
high-pitched "Ay Caramba!"
thundering of hoofs
poorly played second half

⑫

a lengthy prison term
a lifetime suspension
four more years of Dan Quayle
■ very unhappy Shamu
polka rock
new interest in Serbian folklore
a bogey 5
black being mated in two
■ magnificent forehead
Garfield Rolexes
high fives all around
six more weeks of winter

nurse. The corporate man, Lanny Goldfish, is now a psychotherapist

dent at Tulane University. Her family

MAD'S MODERN BABYSITTER'S GUIDE TO THE PROBLEM CHILD



ARTIST AND WRITER: PAUL PETER PORGES

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD
who needs to be read to sleep...



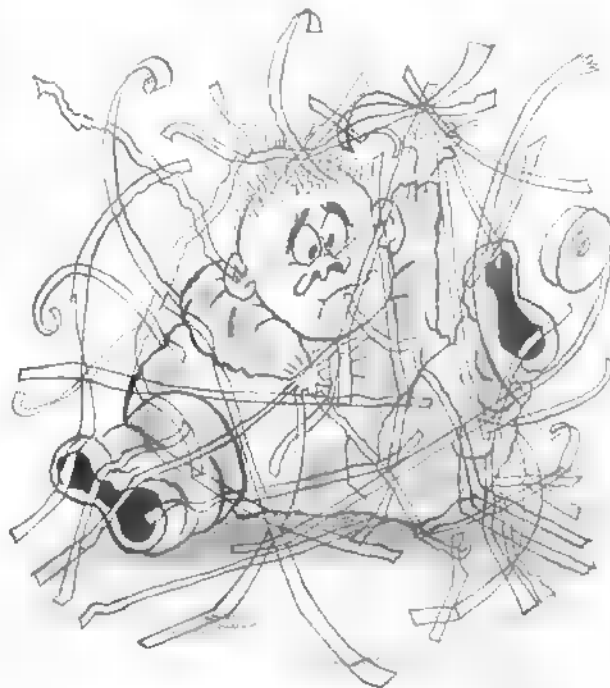
... Let him listen to the
recorded weather report

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD
who gets into everything...



... Put him into his snow outfit

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD
who is hyperactive...



....Teach him to play with Scotch tape

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD

who is a nosy intruder...



... Put Vaseline on the doorknob

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD

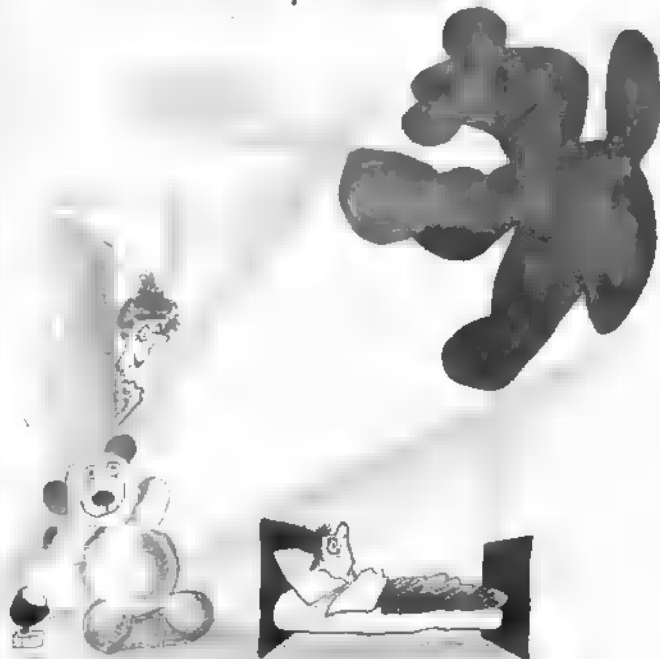
who is a screamer...



... Record his screams and play them back to him on a Walkman

FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD

who acts up at bedtime...



... "Special effect" his stuffed toys

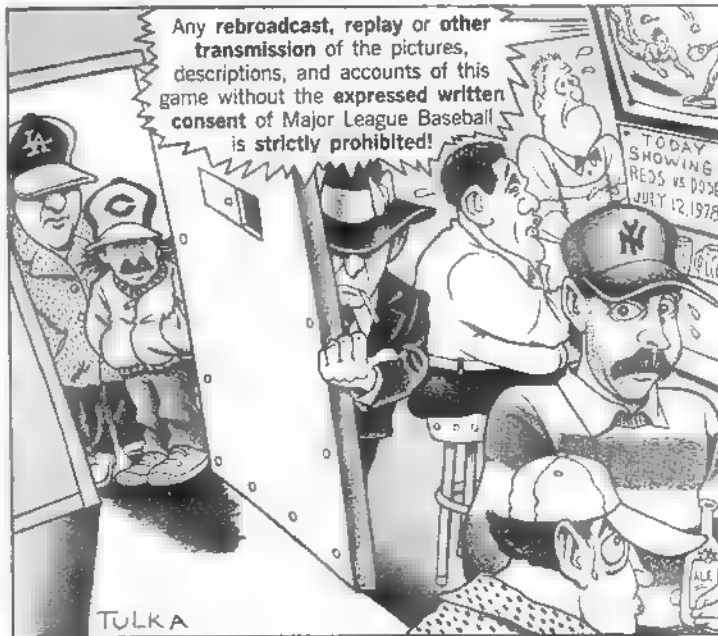
FOR THE PROBLEM CHILD

who is destructive...



... Make videotapes to use as proof when demanding extra hazard pay

Did We Miss...the epidemic of illegal "baseball rebroadcasting" that convinced TV networks they had to interrupt every game with a stern warning against it?



Did We Miss...the rash of bankruptcies by movie theaters charging \$700 a ticket and \$5.00 for popcorn and a soda that made showing big-screen commercials necessary?



CHANGING OUR UNAWARE DEPT.

We at MAD try to stay informed about news and current affairs. We really do! But we must not be "keeping up" as well as we think, because more and more often, we come upon some goofy event or trend that we just can't figure out at all—prompting us to shake our collective head in befuddlement and cry out...

Did We Miss

ARTIST: RICK TULKA



Did We Miss...the daily flag-burnings on every street corner that necessitated something as drastic as drafting a Constitutional Amendment?



Did We Miss...the complete and total solutions to really serious problems which freed up law enforcement officers to turn all their attention to museum art exhibits and dirty rap song lyrics?

Did We Miss...the heartfelt apology for the Tiananmen Square Massacre which convinced President Bush that China's leaders are all "swell fellows" again?



Did We Miss...the sudden appearance of large heavily-armed wildlife that now makes the NRA defend terrorist assault rifles like Uzis and AK-47s as "legitimate sporting weapons"?



Does Something?



WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



Did We Miss...the interpretation of the phrase "Environmental President" that's consistent with vetoing or watering down every anti-pollution bill Congress passes?



Did We Miss...the great public outcry over Brent Musburger's absence from TV that prompted ABC to snatch him up for millions after CBS dumped him?



The latest VCRs can be set to record a program two weeks from now, by which time any show worth watching will probably have been cancelled.



Many new cigarette brands have been developed to attract very specific economic and ethnic groups, which means that all Americans now have an equal opportunity to get lung cancer.

THERE'S ALWAYS GLOOM FOR IMPROVEMENT DEPT.

Most Americans know Murphy's Law—"Whatever can go wrong will go wrong!" And you probably know the Peter Principle ("Individuals rise to their levels of incompetence.") and Parkinson's Law ("Work expands to fill the time left for its completion."). But do you know the theory that really explains what's wrong with modern life? Find out! Follow us into the informational void as we take...

THE MAD MAXIM:
"EXPERTS NEVER STOP MAKING
'IMPROVEMENTS' UNTIL
EVERYTHING BECOMES IMPRACTICAL!"

A MAD LO HOW WE'VE

ARTIST PAUL COKER



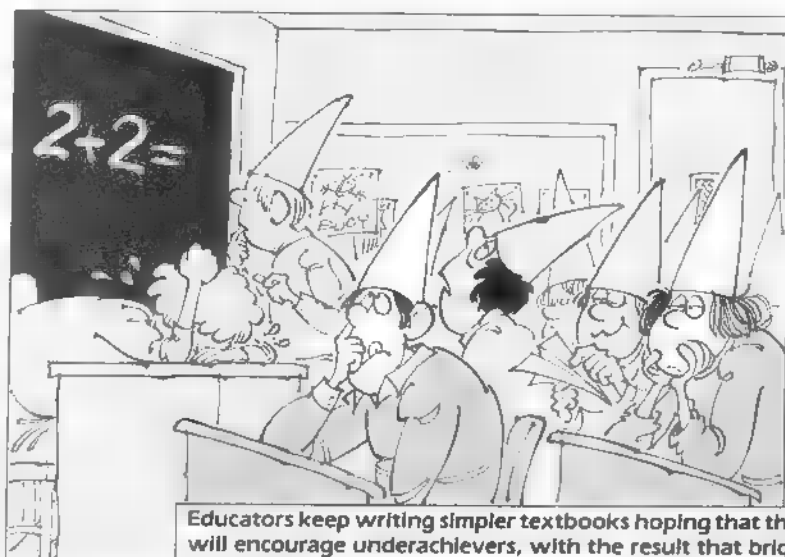
By spending hundreds of billions of dollars, the Pentagon has developed a new and sophisticated military establishment that can allegedly win a full scale nuclear war ■ outer space—but not in Central America.



So many glitzy accessories have been added to new cars that buyers who only want an AM radio and a heater are warned that they're now going to have to pay substantially more for such a unique "customized" model.

OK AT FAR COME

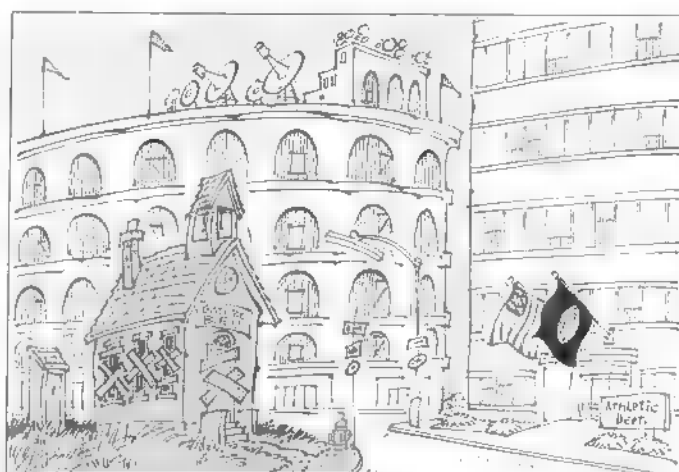
WRITER: TOM KOCH



Educators keep writing simpler textbooks hoping that they will encourage underachievers, with the result that bright kids now don't learn anything except how to underachieve.



To enable more fans to enjoy major league sports, many new expansion teams have recently been formed, all manned by players who definitely belong in the minor leagues.

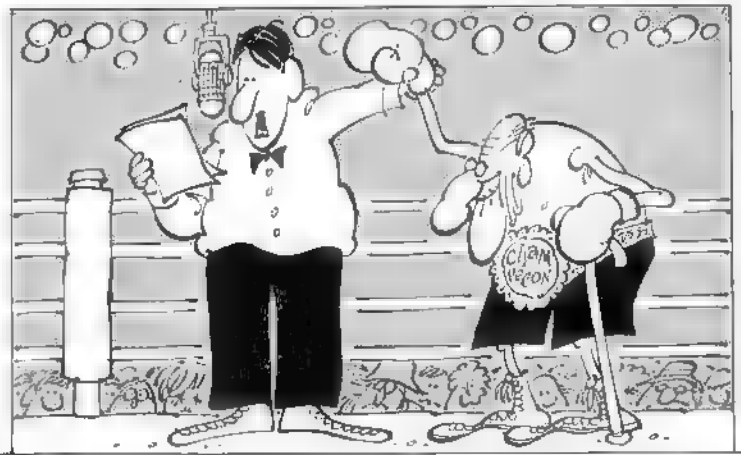


Colleges across the U.S. have become so expert in obtaining TV revenue for their football teams that they can now be profitable without having any real students at all.

**THE MAD MAXIM:
"EXPERTS NEVER STOP MAKING
'IMPROVEMENTS' UNTIL
EVERYTHING BECOMES IMPRACTICAL!"**



The miracle of direct long distance dialing has become so widespread that it is now possible for almost any drunk anywhere in the world to wake you at three in the morning.



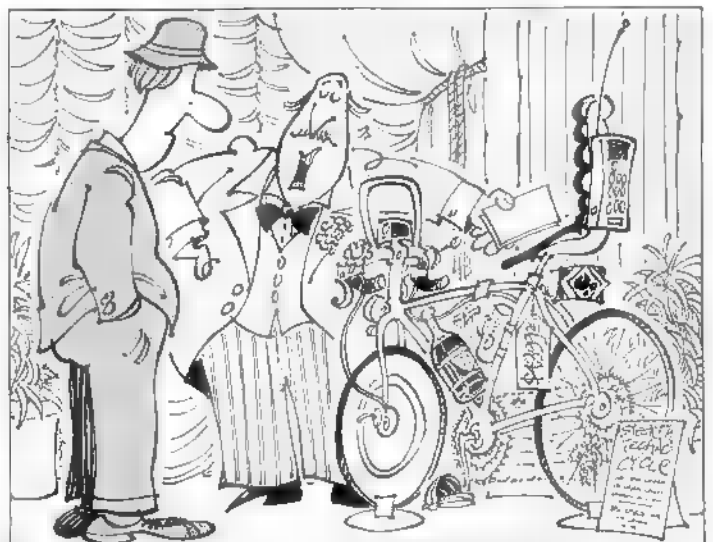
Organizational skill within professional boxing can be thanked for giving us so many different weight divisions and so many different Federations that every fighter in the world is now the champion of something.



Pharmaceutical companies have introduced so many new life-saving drugs that hospital emergency rooms have become filled with scores of people suffering from the harmful side effects of taking them.



Increasingly creative corporate financing has made it possible for virtually any kid with a lemonade stand to take over General Motors just by issuing enough junk bonds.



Bicycles, which became popular as inexpensive alternatives to the automobile, have been so upgraded that the same people who could not afford to buy a car now also cannot afford to buy a bicycle.

Look! A guy leaped out a ten story window and landed in a trash can and now he's rolling down the street in it!

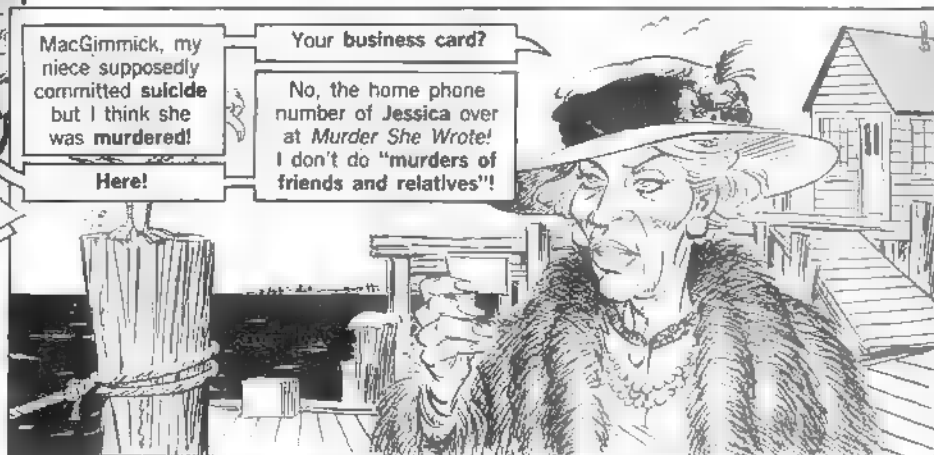
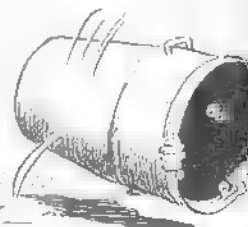
I'll bet he's some undercover cop or a top government agent chasing spies!

Wrong, folks! He's just on his way down to the corner to buy a newspaper!

Really? Then why did he jump instead of just taking the stairs like a normal person?

Stairs? No way! He's got to show off his inane, I mean innate, inventiveness! He's...

MAC GIMMICK

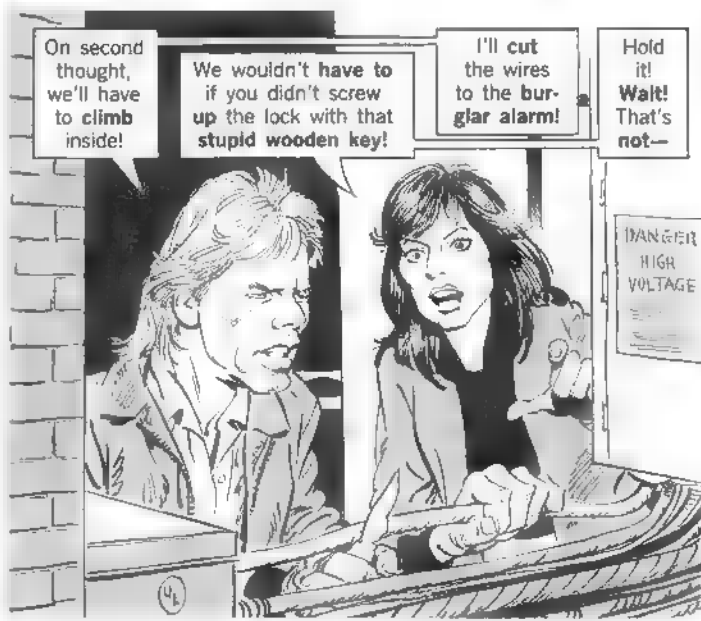


ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO







"The Horizon sails tonight at midnight!"
Humm... it must be some sort of code!

See that big ship over there? It's named the Horizon! It sails at midnight!

Hey—you broke the code! You're my kind of woman!

We've got to catch your boss red-handed! We'll get a foreigner to pose as the president ■ a third-world nation who wants to buy illegal weapons! But we have to work fast!

Where can we find a foreigner at this time of night?!

Easy! We'll call a New York cab! I haven't gotten in one yet that wasn't driven by ■ foreigner!



My boss is on his way!

And I've briefed the cabbie on exactly how to act!

MacGimmick, people may believe you can make a car into ■ motorcycle, but asking them to believe you can turn a cab driver into a president is really pushing it!

I'm happy to meet you, Mr. Presidente! Exactly how much are you willing to pay for 1,000 of these guns for your little country of Absurdo?

My country is prepared to pay you fifty thousand dollars!

\$50,000?? That's all?

No, \$50,000 plus tip!



Tip? What are you talking about?

Er... \$50,000 for you, and ■ \$5,000 tip to your secretary for arranging the deal!

Agreed! Do you have ■ ship to pick up the guns?

No! I'll take them back to my country in my cab!

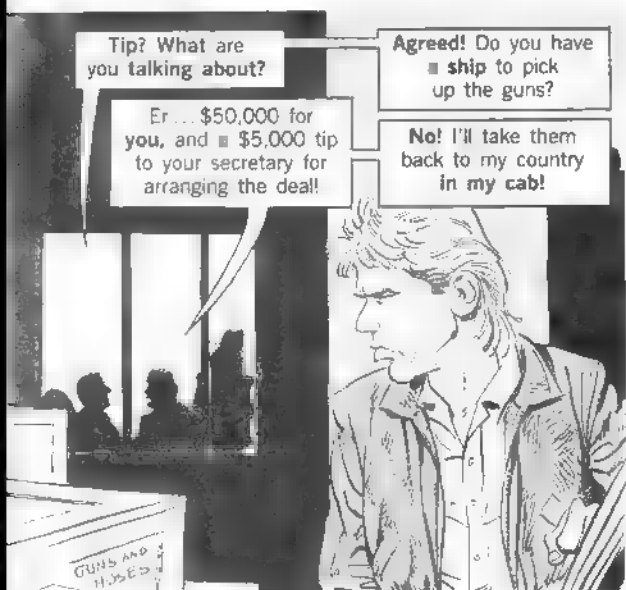
Cab?!!

I'll have to make several trips!

Okay, the game is up, slimeball! Put up your hands!

MacGimmick, how can you threaten him with a yardstick?!

It's a yardstick now, but in 20 minutes, I could make this into ■ death-dealing sword!





There's no need for violence! I assure you, this is an honest operation!

Really? How come every case I've opened contains a few dozen oranges and the rest is guns and ammunition?

The orange business is slow! We give the guns and ammunition away as "premiums"!



Why did you let us all get caught?

Escaping is the only fun I have! Once, I was tied up down on the docks and I cut the lines with a swordfish!

Do you have a swordfish now?

No, but I was able to reach a tuna salad sandwich someone left from lunch! Cutting the ropes with it may take a bit longer than the swordfish did, but I know I can make it work! Say, did I ever tell you how I once made a jet plane out of a frisbee? Of course, it could only seat two people!



We're free of the ropes, but we're locked in! What in the world can we use to get out?

MacGimmick, we're in a room full of guns, bombs and explosives and you ask "What can we use?"

Oh, okay, but I hate doing this! Imagine me—MacGimmick—sinking so low on the "creative escape meter" that I use explosives as explosives!



That creep won't be selling guns anymore!

But how exactly did he get caught?

I don't know! I don't sweat the little details!



Sadie, you aren't going to be safe now that you ratted on your boss! Even with him in jail he can manage to get back at you!

You're going to have to get into our relocation program. We'll get you a good job, you'll make good money, but you'll just get lost in the mass of nameless faces and faceless names!

Does your relocation plan really work?

I'll say! Our last informer is currently going under the name of Dan Quayle!



MacGimmick, for your many years of loyal service to the Phonex Foundation, we'd like to present you with this 24 Karat gold Rolex watch!

Wow! Thanks! Hey, I can smash the crystal, pull off the hands, knock out the works and make this into a neat sundial that I can tell time with!



Hi, Readers! Reverend Donald Wildmon Here!

I'm head of the **American Family Association** in Tupelo, Mississippi! I've made it my job to **seek out and raise a stink over anything** I find **subversive, smutty or sacrilegious!**

That includes **most movies, TV shows, art, books—and yes, magazines!**

In fact, I'm here because I found **this issue of MAD especially offensive!** Take a look at these examples I've selected and I'm sure you'll **agree with me!**



Here, on page 29 in the "**Lighter Side**," we see a youngster **disrespectfully talking back** to her parents. Such **vulgar depictions** encourage children to **disobey and rebel against their elders, demolishing traditional family values and ripping the very fabric of decency** in our nation. If it were up to **me**, the next panel would show the demonic child being **soundly whipped** by her clergyman with a **large leather strap**. Now **that** would be the kind of cartoon I could laugh at!



I was **repulsed** when I read "**Babar's Final Adventure**" on page 13. This is a **sacrilegious** story about **deviant elephants that talk like humans**. But the bible teaches us that elephants **cannot talk** (Luke 15:23). The dull-witted **tools of Satan** responsible for this story are inciting readers to **turn their backs** on the Lord and make a **mockery of Christian values!** Even worse, this vile tale begins with **this lewd drawing of Babar delighting as a decadent pachyderm—and forgive me for saying this—"moons" him!**



Objectionable material is **not always obvious**. Often, it takes a **trained eye like mine** to find it. For example, "**Celebrity Sound Effects**" on page 8 features this **seemingly inoffensive** drawing of a man having his **insides shot out**. This **enlarged detail** of the picture, however, shows that in the pattern of the gunman's trousers, the **degenerate artist** has hidden a drawing of a **sex orgy, full of depraved, writhing bodies** engaged in the most sordid kind of **obscene filth**. See it? It's clearly there!



See what I mean? This filth **must be stopped** and **you can help!** If you **threaten to boycott** all of the **advertisers** in this magazine, it will **scare the editors** and soon they'll be **cowering at my feet!** That's an idea that really **turns me on!** Well, I've got to go now, there's a page in **Reader's Digest** that's really **bothering me!**



**WHAT HAS
GEORGE BUSH'S
"READ MY LIPS"
CHANGED TO?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

A new message has crept onto Bush's lips lately. To see what it is, fold page in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A▶

FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT

◀B FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"



PEOPLE WERE EAGER TO VOTE FOR BUSH WHEN HE'D SAY THAT THEY SHOULD READ HIS LIPS. HE SOON SAW HOW ROUGH THE BUSINESS OF GOVERNMENT CAN BE. THAT'S WHY HE NOW HAS TO MAKE ROOM ON HIS LIPS FOR A NEW PHRASE!

A▶

◀B

